

THE TIMES

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(25p)

Tories press for change in NHS funding

Minister hints at link with private sector

By Nicholas Wood and Jill Sherman

Influential Conservatives yesterday took the furor surrounding the National Health Service as a green light to urge the Government to make radical changes in its funding.

As the Prime Minister turned on the doctors for blocking value-for-money reforms, two former health ministers indicated that the crisis was evidence that the time had come to abandon the "blind alley" of paying for health care out of taxation.

They called for a switch to a system of health insurance more responsive to market forces.

The suggestion by Sir George

'Gatting will stay as captain'

Mr Ramon Subba Row, chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board, left London for Karachi last night after giving an assurance that there was no prospect of Mike Gatting being dismissed as England's captain.

The England players, who technically broke their contracts by issuing a statement in support of Gatting, after he had been ordered to apologise to the Pakistani umpire, Mr Shekhar Rana, are also safe from disciplinary action.

Mr Subba Row, who was accompanied by Mr Alan Smith, the TCCB's chief executive, sees his role as a mediator and peacemaker and expects to be back in London by next weekend with the matter satisfactorily resolved.

He said there was no question of an inquiry until after the players return on December 22, and that it was important to concentrate on the Third Test, which starts in Karachi on Wednesday.

Gatting said yesterday that he was not inclined to play in the match until he had sorted out one or two things with the TCCB representatives, who will be having talks with Pakistani officials.

Mediator flies out, page 34

IN PART 2

Quick goals

Nigel Clough, the Nottingham Forest forward, scored three goals in four minutes during his team's 4-0 win over Queen's Park Rangers. Tottenham Hotspur lost 1-1 to Charlton Athletic. Page 34

TSB denial

Sir John Read, the chairman of TSB Group, denied reports of a boardroom attempt to force him to retire. Page 21

Portfolio

- The £28,000 weekly prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was won by Mrs H. G. G. of Leamington Spa. Saturday's £4,000 daily prize was shared by two readers. Details, page 3.
- There is a further £4,000 to be won today.
- Portfolio list, page 26.

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Prince Henry makes a wish as he leans over a well at the Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust. The Prince of Wales, a patron of the sanctuary which monitors protected wild birds, took both his sons to visit the trust yesterday, and paid £7.50 to adopt a Bewick's swan called Reign.

B-Cal plans share sale after deal with SAS

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Caledonian plans to float its shares on the stock market if the deal with SAS, the Scandinavian airlines group, is given the go-ahead.

As anger mounted among shareholders of the Gatwick airline, yesterday over the move by British Airways to revoke all B-Cal's existing licences, plans were being drawn up to revive the flotation proposal abandoned two years ago.

The flotation was dropped then because of uncertainties over the future of international aviation, a fall-off in transatlantic travel and increased financial difficulties. But the B-Cal board believes that once the airline has been put back on a profitable footing with a cash injection from SAS, investors throughout Europe would be keen to buy into the group.

B-Cal's directors are convinced that Lord King of

Wartaby, the BA chairman, has "shot himself in the foot" by asking the Civil Aviation Authority to take away all B-Cal's route licences.

His move has hardened the attitude of unions, management and directors against BA and made them even more determined to go ahead with the SAS link.

They have taken legal advice, which has indicated that the BA action could be illegal. Lawyers claim that by seeking a full-scale hearing on the future of the licences, BA is acting prematurely.

The Government has been embarrassed by the latest dispute and is seeking to distance itself from what could prove to be a delicate political problem by leaving the CAA to make the final decision.

A full B-Cal board meeting will be held this week to discuss the two offers. It seems almost inevitable that the

board will back the SAS bid and advise the 5,000 shareholders in the private company to hand over 75 per cent of their shares while selling the other 25 per cent to SAS.

BA is pinning its hopes on the institutions which hold most of B-Cal's shares - 31. Investors in Industry, alone has more than 41 per cent.

If they consider the options, claims BA, they will see that the £200 million offered by SAS for all the shares is a better deal than the £130 million SAS is offering for about 24 per cent because it gives them cash in hand.

SAS could increase its valuation of the airline and pump in even more money. But the CAA has ruled that the present deal must go ahead unchanged and any amendments could lead to the matter being referred to the Department of Transport, a move which SAS is anxious to avoid.

Poll tax debate

Speaker may avert revolt

By Richard Ford and Nicholas Wood

Senior ministers believe the Speaker will help to avert a revolt on the Conservative back benches this week when the community charge Bill is debated in the Commons.

They expect him to refuse to take a controversial amendment from Tory rebels, designed to act as a rallying point for all opponents of a flat-rate poll tax.

Yesterday, Government sources told *The Times* that the manoeuvre chosen by Sir George Young, who is leading the Conservative revolt, appeared to be "out of order".

But Sir George, who is backed by a clutch of former ministers, including Mr Michael Heseltine, said that the Government could face even bigger problems if MPs were denied a vote on his "safety valve" proposal linking the poll tax to income.

"If there is not a vote, more people will abstain. Some people who might have abstained will vote against the Bill, and some people who might have voted for the Bill will abstain", he said.

The former environment minister has tabled an "instruction to committee" - a little used parliamentary device normally reserved for bringing to the attention of MPs examining a Bill a matter they might otherwise ignore.

Yesterday, ministers insisted that the measure was "superfluous", because the standing committee considering the Local Government Finance Bill would inevitably study the flat-rate nature of the legislation.

In spite of ministerial confidence that the potential rebellion is unlikely to get off the ground, intense lobbying of Tory waverers will go on until Wednesday's debate. Last week, Mr Nicholas

Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, came away from a meeting of backbenchers convinced they had demolished Sir George's case for a banded poll tax.

Mr Howard said yesterday: "The so-called banded community charge is an unfair version of a local income tax and people should recognize it as such."

But Sir George, Conservative MP for Ealing Acton, countered: "The Government is trying to frighten people off the principle of a banded charge. I want to establish that principle."

Ministers and Conservative backbenchers are bracing themselves for a flood of complaints on the business rate. Because of the redistributive effect of the planned measure, charges in some Tory heartlands will rise by as much as 90 per cent.

Habgood's role under attack in preface row

By Ruth Gledhill

Church leaders yesterday criticized the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, for his role in the publicity surrounding the controversial preface to *Crockford's Clerical Directory* and the death of its author, Dr Gareth Bennett.

Leading conservatives from the Anglo-Catholic wing of the church predicted that the archbishop's comments would cost him the succession to the See of Canterbury.

One member of the General Synod said: "The events of the past week have made me ashamed to be a member of the Church of England."

The archbishop was accused of backtracking after his allegation that media pressure was a "major factor" leading up to the death of Dr Bennett, found dead inside his car last week.

Dr Habgood was one of the first to comment when the anonymous preface was published. He accused the author of "sourness and vindictiveness" in a statement to the Press Association.

But after the death of Dr Bennett he said on BBC Radio 4: "It needs to be recognized that media pressure does seem to have been a major factor that led him to his tragic death. That kind of pressure, on a sensitive academic not used to press exposure, was very great indeed."

The archbishop said a letter offering Dr Bennett £10,000 to write an article defending his preface had been found in the car in which he killed himself last Monday.

A letter offering to give a generous payment to a charity of Dr Bennett's choice had been sent by the *Daily Mail* but senior *Mail* executives last night vigorously denied offering a specific sum of money or acting unethically.

Canon George Austin, a member of the General Synod, said of the archbishop's latest remarks: "This is a terrible thing to say and quite untrue. My experience of the press is that they have behaved very responsibly."

"I believe Dr Habgood is trying to divert attention from his earlier remarks, which were quite indefensible. What he said about the preface must have added to Dr Bennett's distress."

The archbishop, as the incumbent in York, is the obvious candidate to succeed Dr Robert Runcie at Lambeth Palace but Canon Austin said: "Habgood cannot possibly go to Lambeth now. The attacks

Leading article

on Dr Bennett have made me ashamed to be a member of the Church of England.

Canon Brian Brindley, from Reading, said: "I am very sorry that those who thought it their duty to protect the two archbishops spoke out so hastily and so aggressively."

"If the press had been greeted with greater urbanity and a sense of proportion by those in high places, they would not have pursued the hunt so vigorously and with such tragic results."

But the Archbishop was defended by the Right Rev John Taylor, Bishop of St Albans and chairman of the Church of England Committee for Communications, which deals with Church and media relations.

He described the determination of some reporters to discover the anonymous author of the preface as "sometimes ludicrous and rather reprehensible".

TV watchdog to order apologies

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

TV companies which broadcast offensive programmes are likely to be ordered soon to screen embarrassing apologies - often at peak viewing times.

Both Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, and his broadcasting minister, Mr Tim Renton, are convinced the Broadcasting Standards Council, television's planned public watchdog, should be given such a power to give it "clout".

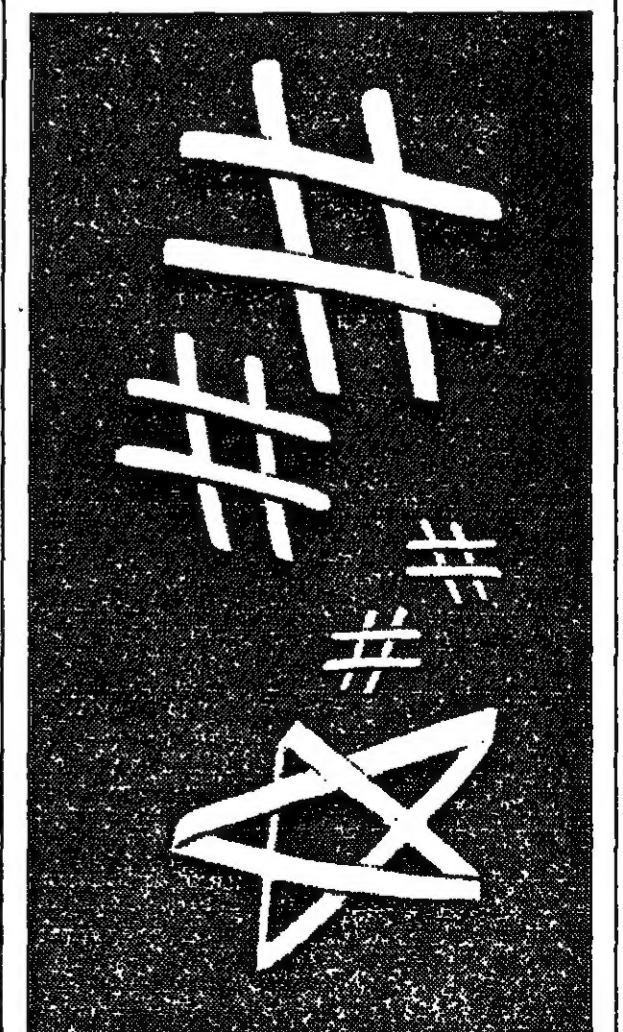
Their proposals mean any TV station judged by the council to have shown a programme which offended public tastes would automatically screen their findings. But more importantly, the min-

isters believe it is crucial those findings should be shown at the identical time to which the original, offending programme was broadcast.

That would mean, for example, if there was a controversy similar to ITV's screening of *Sins* in September, which resulted in public outrage and would almost certainly be condemned by the standards body, the guilty TV companies would have to broadcast the council's conclusions at prime time around 8.30 pm.

Ministers believe TV station chiefs, and programme producers in particular, will be

Continued on page 20, col 8



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Geldof near tears as child bandits tell of horror

From Paul Valley, Maputo

The small boy held out his left hand to Bob Geldof and showed how his fingers had been cut off one by one. Then he turned his head so that the founder of Band Aid could see where Mozambican terrorists had chopped off his ear.

Geldof sat in the classroom of the rehabilitation school for "child bandits" in Maputo and shook his head in silent disbelief.

There have always been atrocities perpetrated by the forces of the so-called Mozambican National Resistance, a guerrilla band equipped by South Africa to wage a war of destruction and destabilization in an attempt to maintain the black states of southern Africa in a state of dependence on their white-ruled neighbour. But in the past these have always

seemed by-products of their assaults on the economy and infrastructure which links those states to the sea.

In recent months, however, such barbaric incidents have been elevated to a nationwide strategy to terrorize the ordinary people of Mozambique.

Rebel attacks over the past six months have been particularly gruesome. Well-documented cases and eyewitness reports by Western aid workers tell of hospital patients systematically hacked to death in their beds, of pregnant women whose bellies have been split apart exposing their foetuses to a lingering death, of busloads of people callously burnt alive.

There is even one incontrovertible account of a woman who was disembowelled and whose son was forced to watch her butchers take out

her heart and eat it before her dying eyes.

The school for children rescued by government forces from their fate as conscripted boy soldiers of the rebels has been open for two months. Until now, the authorities have shielded them from international journalists who have requested interviews, on the grounds that it would disturb them further.

But clearly Mr Geldof's visit, during which he has been given VIP treatment, provided an opportunity for the government's cause to receive widespread international publicity from one single meeting with the children.

"It is clear that this is not a war between the ideologies of left and right. The kind of barbarities I have witnessed take this beyond the notion of a normal war. The mindless sadistic

things who do these things cannot be dignified with the name of guerrillas, bandits or even terrorists. They are evidently perverts of humanity". Mr Geldof said after a morning spent listening to teachers and health officials extracting, as delicately as possible, such tales of horror from the class of "child bandits".

One of the most disturbing tactics of the Mozambican National Resistance is the kidnapping of children, commonly aged 10 or 12, and even as young as five. The children are then subjected to a dehumanizing training which leads to an insatiable bloodlust or a haunted paranoia.

One such was Fernando Maposse, aged 11, of Canisada, a village in Gaza province. The boy, his teacher confided afterwards, had killed more than a dozen people.

Continued on page 20, col 2

NEWS ROUNDUP

Alton confident despite protests

Demonstrators chanted slogans outside an hotel in Glasgow where 1,000 people attended a rally yesterday in support of Mr David Alton's Bill aimed at amending the Abortion Act.

About 100 demonstrators stood outside as supporters gathered inside the Albany Hotel where Mr Alton, MP for Liverpool, Mossley Hill, received a standing ovation.

The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child said it had turned away about 3,000 applicants for tickets because they could not be accommodated in the hotel.

Mr Alton said he was particularly confident of success because of the groundswell of support he was receiving across the country. The amendment would cut the present length of time permitted to terminate a pregnancy from 28 to 18 weeks. Mr Alton says it would affect only 3 per cent of abortions carried out in this country.

The time limit on abortions ranged from 12 to 14 weeks within the EEC. "We are allowing people to come to this country to break the laws of their own country", he said.

Hope for airline

Highland Express, the Scottish transatlantic airline which ceased trading on Friday, could be reborn by Wednesday, it was revealed last night.

Mr Randolph Fields, the founder of Highland Express, has managed to raise £1 million over the weekend after help from Mr Gregory Cook, an Australian businessman, and another, unnamed investor.

Highland Express staff last night told Mr Fields they would work on half pay for two months if it would help to get the airline back in the sky.

Jailbreak trail 'cold'

Police hunting two criminals who escaped from Gartree maximum security prison in a hijacked helicopter, admitted yesterday that the trail has gone cold.

Sea and air ports are being watched in case Sydney Draper, aged 39, a convicted killer, and John Kendall, aged 36, head for Spain where they have contacts. They have been on the run for almost 72 hours.

Mr Malcolm Cairns, Leicestershire's assistant chief constable, said British police have been in contact with the Spanish authorities.

Navy sex allegations

An inquiry into allegations of sexual assault involving men from the nuclear submarine HMS Torbay is being carried out by the Royal Navy's special investigation branch.

It is understood that five men from HMS Torbay, which is docked at Devonport, have been interviewed. HMS Torbay is the Navy's newest nuclear powered attack submarine. It cost £200 million to build.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed that an investigation is being carried out but refused to go into any details. The submarine, which has a crew of 116, was accepted into the navy in February.

Curb on hard left

Mr Neil Kinnock's grip on his party tightened when the London Labour Party voted yesterday by 544,000 to 130,000 for a series of measures intended to curb the activities of the hard left.

The meeting voted to reduce the size of the executive from 58 to 37 and cut the size of the traditionally hard left women's section.

Party officials believe the effect will be to remove the power base of left wingers such as Mr John McDonnell and Miss Linda Bellos and isolate constituency parties they consider behave in a silly and damaging way.

Deadly heroin

Glasgow Police are trying to trace a cache of heroin believed to have killed four addicts in a week.

Mr John Bennett, aged 36, of Langholm Street, Glasgow, was found dead with a syringe in his stomach on Saturday.

Three other men were found dead in the city the previous weekend, each with a needle beside their bodies.

One fear is that a shortage of heroin on the streets may be leading addicts to use a lethal mixture of prescribed drugs. Another theory is that a pusher may be seeking revenge for non-payment.

Siege charge

A man has been charged after an armed siege at Dover in which a jeweller and a shop girl were held hostage for nearly 16 hours. The man, aged 23, from Margate, has not been named by police. He faces charges of robbery, false imprisonment and illegal possession of a firearm.

Gallery director resigns

By Sarah Jane Checkland

The director of the National Gallery of Ireland has resigned despite attempts by its trustees to dissuade him.

Mr Homan Pottier, aged 41, said yesterday: "Under existing circumstances I have contributed all I can to the gallery."

Mr Pottier, who took up the Dublin post eight years ago after working in the National Gallery in London, was widely considered to be the republic's answer to Sir Roy Strong at the V&A. He co-ordinated the cataloguing of the 2,500-strong collection, revamped the restaurant into a pleasant retreat for gallery goers.

Despite those achievements, he has repeatedly expressed frustration at lethargy by the Irish Board of Works over urgently needed repairs.

Overseas students at record

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

A record number of overseas students are studying at British universities, according to a report published yesterday by the University Grants Committee.

Nearly 42,000 registered last year, exceeding for the first time the total in 1979, the year the Government decided overseas students should pay full-cost fees. They now represent 14 per cent of the student body.

The report says the number of overseas undergraduates rose by 8.5 per cent over the previous year to a new peak of 20,500. Postgraduate numbers went up by 7 per cent to 21,500. Overseas students now account for 39 per cent of all postgraduates.

The increase reflects in part the efforts universities are making with the help of the British Council to boost income by recruiting students in the Far East.

Nearly 10,000 students, a quarter of the overseas total, are from Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore. They pay fees averaging more than £4,000 a year.

Seventeen per cent of the overseas total are students from EEC countries who pay the same £530-a-year fees as home students.

The total number of students in British universities last year was 340,720. The proportion of students studying arts subjects increased by 3.5 per cent last year to 45 per cent while the proportion studying science subjects fell by 0.3 to 43 per cent.

Legislation to introduce loans to supplement student grants is likely to be introduced in the next session of Parliament.

It accused the Government, which says the costs can be met by a more effective use of resources, of being misleading and disingenuous.

Parents at the centre of the Dewsbury schools dispute have won legal aid for their High Court battle for the right to choose their children's school.

They go to court in London in the new year for a judicial review of Kirklees Education Authority's refusal to let them send the 24 children to Overthorpe school.

The parents have kept the children away from Headfield middle school, where 85 per cent of the pupils are of Asian origin, and they have been targeted at the public house run by Mr Eric Haley.

The Education Reform Bill will cost local education authorities between £400 million and £600 million a year, the Association of County Councils said yesterday.

It accused the Government, which says the costs can be met by a more effective use of resources, of being misleading and disingenuous.

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Japan offers research link to British scientists

By Robert Matthews, London, and David Watts, Tokyo

The Japanese government's senior adviser on superconductivity today starts a week's visit to Britain, during which British scientists will be invited to collaborate on research into the revolutionary ceramic materials.

Dr Shoji Tanaka is considered to be the prime mover behind Japan's huge drive to exploit the superconducting ceramics, which have the rare ability to lose their electrical resistance when chilled with liquid nitrogen.

The commercial potential of the materials in electronics and engineering has prompted the Japanese government to launch a £200 million, seven-year programme of research involving Japanese universities, government laboratories and industry.

However, Japan has made clear that it wants to collaborate with scientists from the West to speed up the process of understanding the materials sufficiently to make them commercially viable.

Dr Tanaka's trip comes at a time when leading British scientists are describing this

country's research effort as frozen for lack of resources.

This week, the Science and Engineering Research Council is expected to launch the UK National Superconductivity Research Centre, the flagship of a £4 million superconductivity research programme.

However, in the first of a four-part special report on the plight of British research and development, *The Times* today discloses how years of neglect may have left the UK unable to keep pace with the rest of the world in the race to exploit the new materials, no

matter how much money is spent.

Collaboration with Japan could transform the situation. In recent months Japanese scientists have claimed breakthroughs in the fundamental difficulty of turning the friable ceramics into wires and tapes suitable for commercial exploitation.

Experts believe Japan is also leading the international race to find ceramics that superconduct without having to be cooled.

Britain, however, is ahead in the basic science of the ceramics, crucial for the long-

term development of commercial products, which Dr Tanaka believes are up to a decade away.

Dr Cyril Hills, director of research at GEC and one of the scientists playing host to Dr Tanaka, said that GEC would be happy to consider collaboration with Japan. The company has worked with Japanese companies such as Toshiba.

Dr Tanaka will also be visiting Oxford University and the Rutherford laboratory near by, at which world-class research is being undertaken into the materials.

Backing its desire for collaboration, the Japanese government has set up the Superconductivity Forum for the exchange of information and an International Centre for Conductivity.

Dr Tanaka says that negotiations are also under way with the United States. However, American interest in using the superconductors for military purposes, such as the detection of tiny signals from submarines, complicates collaboration because of Japan's peace-based constitution.

Spectrum, page 14

50,000 drop in jobless continues record trend

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

A further drop of about 50,000 in the number of unemployed last month is expected to be announced this week.

It marks a fall of more than half a million since June 1986 when the economy began to improve and the jobless numbers started sliding.

The seasonally adjusted numbers have fallen ever since, last month by a record 58,000 to a total of 2,714,000. Ministers confidently expect the trend to continue despite the problems of the dollar, the US balance of payments deficit and the stock market crash.

The improvement in British industrial performance has survived the gloomy forecasts of the critics and the Government's measures for the unemployed will remove a growing number of jobless workers from the unemployment register and into work training schemes.

The plan is that the combined Community Programme and Job Training Scheme for the long-term unemployed will eventually cut the official jobless figure by 600,000, continuing the British record for having the fastest falling unemployment rate of any key industrialized country.

Another monthly fall would be the seventeenth in succession. Since any fallout from the City of London's problems would be unlikely to affect the November totals, to be announced on Thursday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, and against a background of healthy order books reported by industry, this month could yield yet another record.

The most encouraging feature of the latest figures is understood to be a significant improvement in the number of jobs in regions affected by the recession.

Last night, Mr Michael Meacher, Labour spokesman on employment, welcomed the likelihood of another fall

in the jobless figure but added that the improvement helped to restore only a fraction of the two million or more jobs lost in British industry since 1979.

"There is still a long way to go and what is worrying is the possibility of another rise in unemployment next year if a slow down by half in economic growth and a further fall in the stock market, which are expected, do materialize. Unemployment remains the overwhelming backdrop to the economic record."

The despair that long-term unemployment inflicts on young people is reflected in a report published today by the Policy Studies Institute.

It says that most young people feel they have no chance of getting married and having families as long as they remain out of work. Many see training and upgrading skills as futile and unlikely to lead to work.

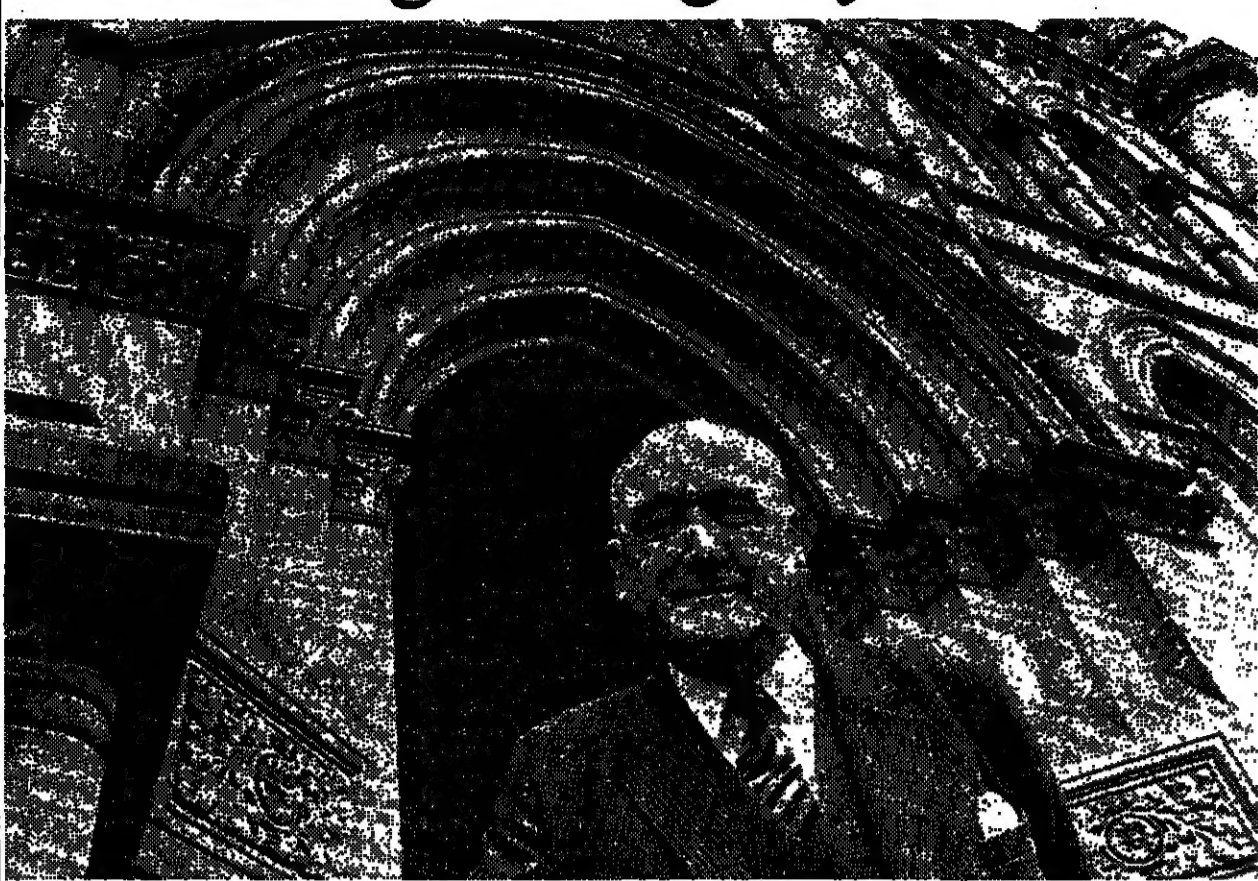
As jobless young people living at home strive for independence, relations with parents often become strained. They feel that protest is a waste of time and that political parties and the Government are unwilling or unable to cure the problem.

Many of them do, however, remain remarkably resilient and look forward with optimism. Far from being work-shy dole-scroungers they wanted work at the earliest opportunity.

The report, by Dr Susan McKee, is based on interviews with men and women aged between 20 and 26 in Southampton, London, Sheffield and Manchester.

The most striking feature, she says, was the continuing importance they placed on finding a job despite increasing years of worklessness. *Young and Jobless: The Social and Personal Consequences of Long-term Youth Unemployment* (Policy Studies Institute, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR).

Defending the dignity of courts



Mr Tom Butler: The face of quiet, determined authority at the Middlesbrough inquiry into child sexual abuse.

By Peter Davenport

In common with all police officers, Tom Butler had to deal with his fair share of tragedy and despair during 36 years in the force.

But since he exchanged his blue uniform and sergeant's stripes for a plain-clothed suit, he has made the aftermath of death, disaster and human failing a full-time occupation.

Mr Butler, aged 60, retired from the West Yorkshire Police three years ago, finishing his career as an instructor at the force's training school.

Within a few months he was asked if he would act as clerk to the court during the inquiry into an outbreak of food poisoning at the Stanley Royal hospital in Wakefield, during which many elderly patients died.

It was to be the start of a new and unusual career, during which he has become the most familiar figure in a long series of public investigations into most of the

disasters that have befallen the nation in the last few years.

After the salmonella inquiry there were hearings to investigate the Bradford City Football fire that killed 56 fans; then a large-scale outbreak of Legionnaire's Disease in Staffordshire; then the Department of Transport inquiry into the sinking of the sailing ship *Marques*.

Earlier this year he was clerk to the court investigating the Herald of Free Enterprise capsized and this week, after five months, he is preparing to wind up his latest job as clerk to the Cleveland child sexual abuse inquiry.

Mr Butler is a modest man and asked him why he has been chosen for such important inquiries he replies: "I have been fortunate, I have been honoured and I have been available."

Mr Butler has an air of authority that is unquestionable. Any transgressor of court etiquette is greeted with a withering glare.

One day during the Cleveland inquiry, a journalist was unwise enough to produce a pair of opera glasses through which she peered at the chief witness in the proceedings, Dr Marietta Higgs.

Within seconds, Mr Butler was moving through the ranks of assembled barristers, solicitors and stacks of files like a guided missile to advise her of the error of her ways.

But behind the sober and serious public image is a private, self-effacing, humorous man who carries out a necessary, but nonetheless difficult task with sensitivity and courtesy.

As the Cleveland inquiry enters its last week of evidence, Mr Butler, the father of three sons and two daughters, is awaiting his next call from the office of the Treasury Solicitor.

"I have a job to do and I regard it as a great honour to be chosen. I try to handle it sensitively but firmly", he says. "The dignity of the court is paramount."

Tube acts on wooden escalators

By Rodney Cowton

Transport Correspondent

London Underground is planning to get rid of wooden components on its escalators and to install automatic sprinkler systems after the fire at King's Cross station, which killed 31 people.

That was announced over the weekend as it was disclosed that the Railway Inspectorate had found that safety work which had been identified in March on 10 escalators at four stations had still not been completed.

The inspectors issued prohibition orders under the Health and Safety at Work Act on Thursday requiring the work to be completed within 10 days on escalators at Paddington, Baker Street, Marylebone and King's Cross.

Among the defects they found last week were accumulated fluff and grease on floors of machine rooms.

The South Wales leadership believes Militant Tendency has tried to influence groups outside the direct control of the union, such as support groups set up by miners' wives, to sway the miners.

Militant accused by Welsh miners

By Tim Jones

As nominations for candidates in the National Union of Mineworkers' ballot close today, furious South Wales leaders have accused a top Militant Tendency member of breaking union rules to secure the re-election of Mr Arthur Scargill.

Mr Ian Isaac, who has been expelled from the Labour Party, faces disciplinary action for allegedly campaigning among extreme left-wing groups in South Wales to ensure Mr Scargill's victory.

The decision to discipline Mr Isaac was made at a stormy meeting of the South Wales executive of the NUM last week, after complaints from lodges in the coalfield about his electioneering tactics.

One South Wales official said yesterday: "It seems that since the Labour Party started rooting out Militants, the ultra left has switched its efforts to gaining control of unions like ours."

The South Wales leadership believes Militant Tendency has tried to influence groups outside the direct control of the union, such as support groups set up by miners' wives, to sway the miners.

A recent article by the editor

Dublin aid in bomb disposal

By John Cooney

British and Irish bomb disposal experts can operate inside each other's territory in special circumstances, Sir John Hermon, head of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, confirmed at the weekend.

The arrangement, agreed a year ago at the Anglo-Irish conference, applies only in a strip of about 200 yards on either side of the border.

Permission to cross the border has to be obtained at the highest level between the two police forces.

Mr Sean Barrett, the Justice spokesman for the Republic's largest opposition party, Fine Gael, said yesterday he intends seeking clarification of the arrangement.

Yesterday the Irish army denied a report that its bomb disposal experts had crossed into Co Fermanagh at Tullyhanna to defuse a 150lb bomb on the day after the Enniskillen bomb outrage.

After the wires of the bomb, planted by the IRA, were traced to the southern shore, it was agreed that the Irish army should disconnect the wires on its side of the border and British bomb disposal officers should defuse the device.

Dear Mr. Moore, You can help mummies like ours—will you?

Our mummy's name is Lesley.

The doctor told mummy she had a lump in her breast that had to be taken away. Now, she's having six weeks of treatment at Southend Cancer Unit every week day. Daddy hasn't got a job and we don't have a car, so grandpa's been taking an hour off work each day to take mummy to the hospital and bring her back again.

If mummy had to have her treatment elsewhere grandpa couldn't afford the time and mummy the money to get there and back every day. She'd have had to stay in a hostel and we'd have lost mummy for six weeks. We'd have missed her so much and she us, as she's been a bit unhappy having her treatment.

We know we're lucky 'caus Southend Cancer Unit is open—please, please, please help other mummy's like ours DON'T LET IT CLOSE.

Signed GARY age 14, Lynsey age 10, Paul age 7

Help Save Southend Cancer Unit—write to John Moore, Health Secretary NOW!

Inserted on behalf of: Save Southend Cancer Unit Campaign, c/o 35 Clatterfield Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

Save Our Southend cancer unit



Companies out to woo London staff

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Higher London allowances for staff in the finance and retail sectors have begun to spread to other areas of the labour market, according to a survey published today by Incomes Data Services.

Attracting well qualified staff in London and retaining them costs the big banks £3,000 a worker and competitive pressure has lifted the pay of many in the so-called Roseland (the Rest Of the South-east) area outside central London.

More employers, including the Civil Service, are targeting extra payments to groups of employees in short supply or in key locations rather than conferring a blanket London allowance.

Other employers use a vari-

ety of tactics, including restructured pay scales, merit pay, individual market-related salaries or improvement of benefits.

IBM raised inner-London allowances last month from 12 to 14 per cent of salary and from 7 to 9 per cent in outer London, subject to £4,500 and £3,036 ceilings respectively. The IBA, the BBC, Esso, Shell, ICI, the Thomas Cook group and the Automobile Association were among the companies which admitted they now took the labour market into consideration when setting London allowances. Incomes Data Services Ltd, 193 St John Street, London EC1V 4LS; by subscription.

British women will share in £1.35bn for injuries by coil

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent, and Charles Bremner in New York

Thousands of British women who claim they have been injured and in some cases made infertile after using an American contraceptive coil, are expecting to share in £1.35 billion compensation ordered after a 10-year legal battle in the United States yesterday.

An American judge has ordered the A H Robins company, which made the Dalkon Shield, to set aside that sum for a worldwide fund to compensate an estimated 200,000 women. However, it is unclear whether those who suffered less serious side effects will qualify.

The company based in Richmond, Virginia, faces claims from women in the US and Europe for injuries stemming from sales of the contraceptive device between 1970 and 1974.

The injuries included spontaneous abortions, infertility and conditions stemming from pelvic infections. The deaths of 20 women are also blamed on the shield, of which 5 million were sold, 90,000 of them in Britain.

In 1974, after reports of deaths and serious pelvic infections, the shield was withdrawn but some women still used it as late as 1985 when Robins finally recommended its removal.

The order was last night welcomed by the Dalkon Shield Association, which represents 3,700 British women who have claimed damages. The association estimates that if health authorities had alerted women sooner, the number of compensation claims would have exceeded 10,000.

Miss Marlene Winfield, or-

ganizer of the association, criticized the Department of Health and Social Security for failing to organize a proper system for recalling the coil.

Only the West Midlands Regional Health Authority did that; as a result 1,000 of the 3,700 women seeking compensation were from the West Midlands. Miss Winfield said there was now little chance that women who had not already lodged a claim would be able to do so.

She said it had been a long haul battling for compensation, but hoped that money would be paid with the next year, although it would be impossible to know how much would be allocated to British women.

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South, last night demanded to know why British women were supplied with the Dalkon Shield after it was withdrawn in the US. "It is deeply disturbing and I am asking the Minister for Health to state who was responsible for this slip up and how it happened", he said.

The latest order comes after compensation given to women aged under 40 left infertile after using the shield, earlier this year. Those women were offered £9,200 each to pay for them to have test-tube babies or surgery to help them to conceive.

Legal actions costing £306 million forced Robins into bankruptcy in 1985 when it took advantage of a statute that provides protection from creditors and lawsuits pending re-organization. The so-called Chapter 11 bankruptcy statute has been widely criticized as lending itself to abuse.

Lawyers said Friday's rul-

ing, likely to be argued in the courts for at least another year, amounted to a legal test of a company's ability to use Chapter 11 to escape litigation in personal injury suits. Liability suits have exploded over the past decade, forcing up the costs of services such as hospital care, and sending many companies into bankruptcy.

Lawyers for the shield victims had asked the judge to set aside from four to seven billion dollars for the award, while Robins had said just over one billion dollars would be needed for compensation.

Until a flood of liability suits drove the family-owned firm into bankruptcy proceedings, it had paid out about 530 million dollars in compensation and damages. That averaged more than 50,000 dollars per case.

In the biggest case, upheld by an appeal court last June, a Kansas court awarded 9.2 million dollars, including 7.5 million dollars in punitive damages. The court found Robins had fraudulently concealed safety-related information. It ruled unanimously that no appeals tribunal in Kansas had "ever been presented with corporate misconduct of such magnitude and duration".

Judge Meribice, in Richmond, told the company last August that it would have saved itself millions of dollars if just one person had got up and said: "We're sorry".

Robins's lawyers are still basing their defence on arguments that the injuries suffered by the shield-users were due to sexually transmitted diseases and that the device was no more dangerous than others.

The terracotta warhorse



Intricate detail of a warrior's horse, from the 2,000-year-old terracotta army from China, is shown to Jube McKeown, aged three. A small detachment of nine warriors and two horses form an important part of an exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Society's Old Hall, in London, about China's first imperial dynasty.

It opens today until February 20, and is expected to attract more visitors than the Tutankhamen treasures 15 years ago.

Organizers have attempted to recreate the atmosphere of the soldiers' home in China, by setting them in a replica of the pit in which they were found.

More than 7,000 soldiers and horses — no two alike — have been uncovered since the site was discovered by villagers drilling for water in Xian in 1974.

The army was created to protect the emperor Qin Shihuang in death. His tomb, about a mile away from the warriors site, is still being excavated.

Qin Shihuang is remembered mainly for atrocities he inflicted during his 36-year reign and for the reconstruction of the Great Wall of China, for which he used more than 350,000 conscripts (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

'Today' aims for younger ears

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's essential early morning listening is to be subtly altered to try to attract younger listeners and create a more nationwide appeal.

The changes to *Today*, Radio 4's news and current affairs show, are being planned by Mr Phil Harding, the programme's new editor, who is concerned that it panders to the interests of the South-east — and is unattractive to too many people aged under 30.

But he is quick to assert that he will make no cross changes to the programme, which has six million listeners each morning.

Mr Harding, aged 40, who spent 15 years in television before moving to radio, says: "I want to make sure that it is a programme that addresses the whole of the United Kingdom. I think that Radio 4 at the moment has a slight southern bias."

"There are stories in other parts of the country that are very important in those parts of the country, but which are very underseen or overlooked in London. I want to make sure that it feels like Radio 4 United Kingdom and not Radio Home Counties."

His second, and harder, task is to boost *Today*'s share of younger listeners. At the latest count only 16 per cent were aged under 35.

"It's always classically said of Radio 4 that it has an older audience. I want to try to make it attractive to all age groups", but he adds, "I don't mean by that I'm going to do it by suddenly producing a rock music slot every weekday morning".

Portfolio Gold Jackpot of £8,000 for winner

The sole winner of the weekly Portfolio Gold prize of £8,000 is Mrs H. Galvin, of Leicester, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

The daily Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 is shared by Mrs Elizabeth Preston-Walker, of North Barrow, Yewell, Somerset, and Mr Philip Howells, of Victoria Road, Wansley, Walsby, Swanssea, South Wales.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times, PO Box 40,
Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Mrs H. Galvin wins £8,000.

Customs may charge golfer

Ian Woosnam, the world matchplay golf champion, faces legal action after being stopped by Customs officers twice in four months.

They want to charge Mr. Woosnam, aged 29, with failing to declare a gold watch he was wearing on his return from Sun City, Bophuthatswana, a week ago, and a pair of crocodile-skin shoes that he wore last August. He was held for two hours at Heathrow Airport last Monday.

Arcade addicts turning to crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Some youngsters are turning to crime to finance the playing of coin-operated video games and to support their gambling habits.

Twenty three per cent of trainees in a youth custody centre who gambled and 21 per cent of those who played coin-operated video games said they had committed an offence to finance their habit, according to a survey reported in *The British Journal of Criminology*.

The survey reported on December 2 how a gambler aged 18 committed 94 thefts to finance his addiction. He was given a conditional discharge of 12 months because he was able to prove that he had beaten the habit. The *Journal* survey showed that the "criminal" gamblers questioned at the centre gambled more frequently than their friends and chased their losses more. They reported more problems due to gambling and had in the past sought help more often.

"Criminal" video game players were younger than "non-criminal" ones. They started playing video games regularly at an earlier age. They played more frequently, and more often spent all their money on the games.

They took time off work, and neglected food to a greater extent than the "non-criminal" players.

The survey of 100 male trainees aged between 15 and 21 at the Youth Custody Centre, Feltham, west London, was by Dr Graham Huff, principal clinical psychologist, Priory Hospital, London, and Miss Frances Collinson, of the Department of Human Science, Brunel University. Sixty of the 100 trainees said they gambled and 60 played video games.

The Home Office is conducting research into the use of amusement machines. The Gaming Board is to prepare a report on amusement arcades, and inquiries are being renewed with the police and other relevant bodies.

The number of juveniles given custodial sentences has been cut dramatically by the use of programmes of supervised community activity, a survey published today by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders says.

Known as intermediate treatment schemes, 110 projects set up under a DHSS initiative announced in 1983 serve 300 juvenile courts in 62 local authority areas.

The percentage of sentenced boys sent into custody in the study areas was cut from 9 per cent in the first half of 1986 to 7.7 per cent in the second half, compared with a national average in 1986 of 11.5 per cent.

Overtime by nurses 'unpaid'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

One in five nurses do other jobs and almost three out of five regularly work overtime, according to a survey published by the Royal College of Nursing yesterday.

The study, conducted by the Institute of Manpower Studies on 2,513 nurses, showed that overtime was rarely paid and that because of staff shortages there was no opportunity to take time off in lieu.

The college claimed that by not paying for overtime and meal breaks worked, the National Health Service saves more than £166 million a year.

The report showed that 47 per cent of nurses worked between one and five hours overtime, equivalent to a loss of £28 a week for a staff nurse and £56 for a sister. Twelve per cent of nurses worked between five and 10 hours and 5 per cent worked more than 10.

More than 70 per cent of the nurses who had second jobs said they were forced to seek extra work for money reasons.

A staff nurse should be given the same pay as an NHS electrician, who now earns £1,000 a year more, the National Union of Public Employees said yesterday in its evidence to the Nurses and Midwives Pay Review Body.

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Degas puzzle may be solved

The mystery surrounding the identity of the buyer of Degas's painting, "The Laundry Maids" which was sold for £7.5 million last month, may be solved.

Strong sources in the art world point to Mr Wendell Cherry, the chairman of Humana, a company which runs private hospitals all over the world. The painting, of two laundry girls, one hard at work, the other yawning, was the highlight at Christie's Impressionist sale on November 30, fetching the £7.5 million, a record for the artist, against an estimate of \$4 million.

At the time, excitement about the price was deflated by the absence of a buyer, who, Christie's said, had bid through one of its members of staff in New York.

Mr Cherry was lying low last week, and his secretary would say only: "Mr Cherry does not discuss his art collection".

Meanwhile, there is still no sign of the owner of the world's most expensive painting, *Irises* by Vincent Van Gogh, which sold for \$53.9 million (£30.2 million) in New York last month.

One well-connected dealer said last week: "It's extraordinary. Usually after a while with these sales, you get definite leads as to who has bought them, but with this one, no one has any idea".

The only persistent rumour about the *Irises* is that the buyer has been given five years to pay.

Furniture by the American architect and designer Frank Lloyd Wright sold for a premium in New York at Christie's American Arts and Crafts sale over the weekend.

The sale brought about a homecoming for a number of items, originally made by Wright for the Susan Lawrence Dana House in Springfield, Illinois.

They were bought back for the house, which is now a museum, by the governor of Illinois.

Among these was a leaded glass and bronze table lamp of about 1903, its iridescent, conical top reminiscent of a Japanese pagoda. Estimated at \$120,000 to \$180,000, it sold for \$132,000.

The top price was \$23,600 at Sotheby's English furniture sale, for a pair of Regency parcel-gilt rosewood games tables, about 1820.

The price was equivalent to their top estimates, and they sold to a New York private collector. A pair of William IV parcel-gilt mahogany arm chairs sold for \$23,100 (estimate \$15,000 to \$18,000), but 35 per cent of the goods failed to sell. At Christie's twentieth-century decorative arts sale on Saturday, the top lot was a seven-inch tray for rings, which sold at mid-estimate for \$60,500.

It bore entwined serpents and the face of a catfish, and was made by Eugene Fautelle, a contemporary of Lalique.

A set of four lacquered wood panels fetched \$49,500 (estimate \$30,000 to \$40,000) to a New York dealer.

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

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The actress Barbara Streisand bought the top lot, an oak desk-cum-library table dated about 1900 from the living room of a house Lloyd Wright designed in Kankakee, Illinois.

At \$176,000 it sold for \$100,000 over estimate.

A number of the top lots were bought by Mr Thomas Monaghan, the proprietor of the Domino pizza chain.

He plans to open a museum dedicated to Frank Lloyd Wright in Michigan, and paid \$71,500 for an oak reclining chair with a slatted, adjustable back (estimate \$30,000-\$40,000).



Manpower training: 1

Tackling labour's paradox

Among the truly skilled workers in the Sheffield cutlery industry, Beattie Casey is the doyen of polishers. Her workbench is on a dimly lit top floor where gloom eliminates any bright reflections.

She crafts superb items of silverware against a revolving polishing buff of swan's down. Her skill lies in her finger tips, trained over 31 years without the benefit of work release lectures, sandwich courses, video instruction or text books.

Jim Spiers, managing director of the silver specialists Walter Trickett and Co, values her so highly that he chauffeurs her to work if she is feeling a bit off colour or the weather is bad. Mrs Casey, aged 65, has no retirement plans.

She puts the final, flawless polish on silver plate with a quality and speed that less experienced fingers would find impossible.

She can rattle off six gross of knife handles a day or the equivalent in coffee pots, tea

Not enough jobs and too few workers — that is the paradox of the British workplace as the Government prepares to launch the Training Commission, to help 600,000 people to find employment. Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent, looks at the aims of the service and obstacles it faces.

She started work at 14, following her mother, grandmother, sister and a line of aunts into the trade. It was a grand family tradition, she says. Adding the touch of perfection to something so beautiful was the most satisfying element of the job.

The whole concept of motivation, incentive, skill training and courses crowned with a qualification left Mrs Casey cold. "I can't be doing with all that," she said, hardly regarding something she had done industriously for 51 years as a skill.

In stark contrast, across the city rooftops, in the Man-

power Services Commission, skills are themselves an industry.

So many groups monitoring the performance of British industry have pointed to the gap in qualifications separating a significant number of Britain's 2.7 million unemployed from jobs, that the Government is now conscious of the threat such a shortage of trained workers could impose on the whole country's pace of economic growth.

Recent surveys by the Institute of Directors show that while the majority of companies expect growth despite the pessimism of the financial markets, business leaders report a serious shortage of skills throughout the country in engineering, electronics, high technology and construction.

Industries that need the skills of Beattie Casey are growing rare.

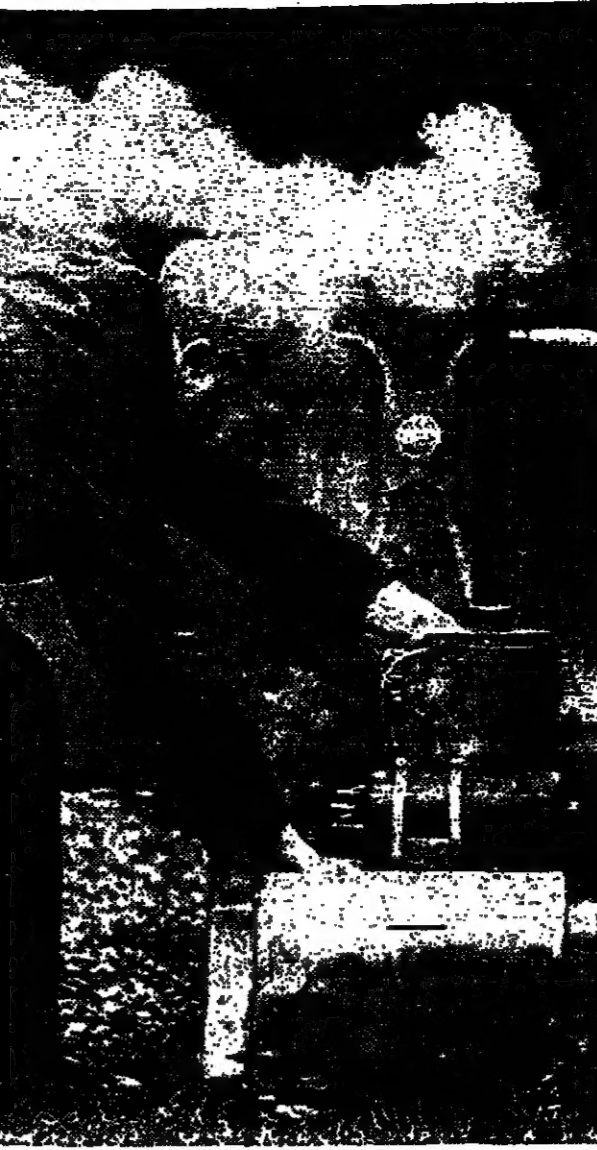
The shortage is not restricted to the affluent South-east, where house prices act as a barrier, preventing unemployed skilled workers from migrating to the region. A scarcity of skilled mechanics, welders, fitters and technicians is said to be holding up progress.

Other surveys show that in spite of the efforts of some companies training for the future, British industry as a whole has an historically poor record, investing only 0.15 per cent of turnover on training against 2 or 3 per cent in such competing nations as West Germany and Japan.

Worse still, young people starting work are often too ill equipped to begin training. Forty per cent lack a single O level or CSE and the majority, according to one survey, are so lacking in education that they are equipped only to be coolies.

Tomorrow: Carrot and stick.

Full steam ahead



For the gardener who has everything — a steam-powered lawnmower. Mr John Osborne, aged 40, of Chessington, Surrey, perfected the machine after three years of tinkering in his workshop. Mr Osborne, a researcher, hopes to build a bigger mower soon, and eventually his own locomotive (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

Whitehall brief

Treasury could lose its grip on pay bargaining

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Is The Next Step, Sir Robin Ibbot's report advocating decentralizing Whitehall management, a mere blip on the screen or — in one pundit's phrase — an attempt to overturn Sir Warren Fisher's settlement of the power relationship between the Treasury and departments that has lasted nearly 70 years?

Even after the Prime Minister declares her hand, a lot will depend on how Sir Robin's plan is put into effect. Will it take, for example, a high-powered progress chaser located in the Cabinet Office to follow it through and prevent Sir Peter Middleton and his Treasury divisions clawing back their prerogatives?

Two episodes in the past week highlighted the issues that a firm implementation of Sir Robin's ideas might resolve.

First, and most obviously, is the question of pay. In its 129th annual report, the Board of Inland Revenue, coy as ever, did not make a point which is blindingly obvious (at least on the upper floors at Peat Marwick and Coopers Lybrand): that private sector tax minimizers, including champion jockeys, will be able to obtain advice of the highest quality from the many highly trained inspectors who have left the Inland Revenue in recent months.

Inland Revenue is losing people of the calibre of Mr Norman Kirby, who until recently was chairman of the Association of Inspectors of Taxes. Equipped with such expertise, accountancy firms have the ability to fight fire with fire to a degree that must worry the taxman.

Are Inland Revenue's technical divisions in a position to smell out some later Eighties version of the Roostmister package?

The climate already favours increasing decentralization of pay bargaining. Last week's Inland Revenue Staff Federation pay deal points down Sir Robin's road of allowing departments to vary quite far from a central spine and relate pay to the individual rather than to his or her job.

That one was monitored by the Treasury. To stem its losses Inland Revenue is going to have to contemplate paying inspectors at grade 5 and above more than Whitehall norms. Can the Treasury live with that?

Second, and less obvious, is the question of equal opportunities. Miss Sue Collins, the Cabinet Office assistant secretary responsible for equal opportunities, has the job of gently persuading (among others) the department respon-

sible for race relations, the Home Office, that its recruitment from the ethnic minorities is below par.

Under present arrangements, the Cabinet Office can nudge from the centre, even attempt to use the weapon of shame. Under Sir Robin's arrangement, by which the Home Office would be much freer to set the terms and conditions of its staff, how much weight will a centrally determined policy on equal opportunities carry?

Some may ask whether the Government's enthusiasm for importing businessmen into Whitehall will produce lasting change.

A certain former permanent secretary said he has seen industrialists brought in during the Second World War and again during the brief and inglorious life of the Department of Economic Affairs in the 1960s.

He said the outsiders do not last long enough. "They all went up the wall because of the politicians", he said.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, made no secret of his wish to see thrusting entrepreneurs, blooded in commercial warfare, take charge of his new urban development corporations.

Technically, the choice of chief executives is in the hands of the corporations' chairmen and members (who are appointed by Mr Ridley) but it was clear when appointments were made to the Teesside, Tyneside, Black Country and Trafford corporations that he would have been most upset if business had not been represented on the shortlists.

Try as the head-hunters might, business did not provide. The men appointed were from the public sector. In the case of Tyneside, he came from within the Department of the Environment itself, in the shape of Mr Alastair Balls, the under-secretary for the North-east.

He turned out to be a cheap appointment since he has gone to the corporation on secondment and an under-secretary's pay is a good deal less than a private sector recruit might have commanded.

The issue returns with the creation by the minister last week of mini-corporations in Bristol, Leeds and Manchester. He is most unlikely to find thrusting businessmen to accept the money on offer.

Board of Inland Revenue: Report for the Period from 1st January 1986 to 31st March 1987 (Stationery Office; £11.50).

Theatrical walls may rise again

By Lynda Martin

The Theatre Museum in London is providing inspiration for a similar enterprise in Dublin which could be housed in an authentic reconstruction of part of the original Abbey Theatre.

Mr Dáithí Hanly, an architect from Dalkey, Co Dublin, rescued the granite stones that formed the original Abbey Theatre's main entrance and vestibule when demolition men were given instructions to "dump everything" in 1961, 10 years after fire destroyed the rest of the building, built in 1839.

The stones, each numbered to indicate its former position, have been stored in Mr Hanly's garden in Dalkey.

He believes the time is ripe to resurrect this part of Ireland's literary heritage and reconstruct the old Abbey, stone by stone, so that it can contain the country's first theatre museum.

Mr Hanly, former official architect to Dublin city and designer of the Basilica at Knock, Co Mayo, hopes to persuade developers to incorporate the theatre's walls into a £250 million project at the Custom House Docks, Dublin.

Mr Hanly, in London to visit the Theatre Museum at Covent Garden and look for sponsors for his own project, said: "It is a national disgrace that we haven't got a theatre museum when we are so rich in drama and literature".

The stones in Mr Hanly's garden have in their time reverberated to some great theatrical names — George Bernard Shaw, W.B. Yeats, and Sean O'Casey among them. If his plan comes to fruition, the museum will house some 16,000 items relating to Irish theatrical history.

He said: "I saved the stones because I felt the last remaining part of one of the most important theatres in the English speaking world should not be lost for all time".

Balmoral in offer to anglers

The Queen is offering fishing for two on the River Dee at her Balmoral estate in a venture aimed at salmon conservation.

The Duchy of Cornwall, courtesy of the Prince of Wales, is also offering two season tickets for stretches of the River Dart.

The offers are part of a plan by the Atlantic Salmon Trust to raise funds for research into the species and to find ways to conserve it. It has persuaded many leading estate owners to donate "fishing time" next year and anglers are being asked to bid for them.

The most valuable beats, including one that would cost at least £8,500 if offered commercially, have been contributed by the Duke of Roxburghe on the River Tweed.

Details of the lots, of which 165 have been offered to the trust and which vary from a single day to a week's fishing, are available from the Atlantic Salmon Trust, Moulton, Tayside.

Premier pears

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has contributed the recipe for her favourite dessert, pears in red wine served cold with whipped cream, to a fund-raising cookery book for All Saints Church, Stradbroke, Suffolk.

Barge jammed

A crane barge, 183 ft long and 150 ft high, was wedged under a cliff at Ram Head, Co Waterford in the Irish Republic yesterday after breaking loose on Friday while being towed from Liverpool to Malta.

Bain divorce

Lady Sophia Crichton-Stuart, aged 31, the elder daughter of the sixth Marquess of Bute, is divorcing her rock guitarist husband, Mr Jimmy Bain, aged 39, after eight years of marriage.



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Public Administration Commission
The Public Administration Commission has published a report on the state of public administration in the United Kingdom. The report, which is the first of a series, examines the structure and functions of public administration and makes recommendations for improvement. It is available from HMSO, London, for £1.50.

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Law Society attack on 'Trojan horse' legal aid scheme

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Government proposals to make the £450-million-a-year legal aid scheme more cost-effective have come under strong attack by the Law Society.

In a briefing paper to peers to coincide with the Legal Aid Bill's second reading in the House of Lords tomorrow, the society describes the Bill as a "Trojan horse", giving untrammelled powers to the Lord Chancellor.

The paper says the Bill leaves the future shape of the legal aid scheme entirely to regulations to be decided upon by the Lord Chancellor. He is not obliged to consult before making them.

The society calls for a number of changes in the proposed legislation.

In the wake of the £2.5m offer to alleged victims of the anti-arthritis drug Opren last week, it wants reforms to the legal aid scheme so class actions are possible. Class or group actions are more effective than individual actions and legal aid would be one vehicle for these.

Although the present means test which determines a

person's eligibility for legal aid would have to go in such cases, the legal aid fund could recoup its costs through a "statutory charge" on the damages or property recovered.

The society also wants the main principles of the legal aid scheme to be spelt out in the Bill and consultation by the Lord Chancellor to be compulsory before any regulations are made.

Third, the society says draft regulations should be presented to Parliament before the Bill completes its passage through the House, and before regulations on important questions are made, there should be a positive vote for them by Parliament.

The society's briefing paper also coincides with a meeting today of advice, consumer and legal groups worried about the future of the legal aid scheme.

There is concern among the Law Society, the Bar and other legal groups about two key proposals in the Bill: first, to transfer responsibility for running the scheme to a Legal Aid Board which the profession fears will not be adequately

independent from the Government; and second, the proposal to "contract out" the giving of some kinds of legal advice to lay advice workers.

In its paper today, the society asks how quality and level of service can be assured if advice is contracted out by competitive tender.

The proposal "raises the spectre of queues of people waiting to see a few harassed advisers and of people being unable to find out about their rights and obligations. Consumer choice will be lost", it says.

It is also concerned that more and more lawyers will drop out of legal aid work because of poor rates of pay: the Bill removes the present requirement on the Lord Chancellor to pay "fair" rates.

The society calls for a number of reforms to the legal aid scheme which are not included in the Bill. Among them, it wants legal aid for tribunal representation to be extended "as a matter of urgency" to tribunals dealing with social security matters and immigration.

Leisure power grows in shaping Broads



By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

Conservation groups have lost their battle to weaken the influence of leisure and sporting interests on the future of the Norfolk Broads.

They had hoped to persuade the Lords' select committee, set up to hear objections to the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Bill, to reduce the part such

interests will play in determining what happens to the area.

The committee will publish a report this week backing the Government's plan to give navigation, tourism and conservation lobbies equal representation on a new Broads authority.

Seven environmental groups united to petition against the Bill as it stands, arguing that the 35-member authority,

which has no powers to police the water spaces, needed more teeth to preserve the natural beauty of the 111 square miles of broadland.

The pressure on the Broads comes from 250,000 holidaymakers and 12,000 boats every year and the discharge of nutrients from sewerage and farmland.

Lord Belstead, Minister of State at

the Department of the Environment, believes the Government has judged rightly the balance between the different interests. He told his fellow peers that he believed it would be a tragedy for the Broads if the Bill, already passed by the Commons, failed to get enough support in the Lords to become law.

(Photograph: John Rogers)

Motorway repairs

More cash urged for London roads

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Inner London boroughs are failing to keep pace with inflation in their allocation of road maintenance funds, according to statistics from Movement for London, which represents motoring, road haulage and other interests.

It says that in the current financial year, inner London boroughs are spending on average only 1.1 per cent more on road maintenance than last year.

Outer London boroughs, however, have increased their road maintenance budgets by an average of 17 per cent.

Movement for London said: "The roads of inner London carry very high traffic volumes and are the arteries of the capital's economy. If some boroughs do not maintain their roads, motorists will face more potholes, which will cause vehicle damage and more traffic delay."

Motorway roadworks until next Monday:

London and South-east

M1 London: lane closures southbound near J4 (Edgware).

M4 London: eastbound carriageway closed between 21.30 and 06.00 with signed diversions, beginning Wednesday for 30 weeks. Lane closures at other times.

M4 Berkshire: roadworks on both carriageways, Jns 14-15 (Hungerford/Swindon).

M11 Essex: southbound lane closures, Jns 5-4 (Loughton/North Circular Road).

M11 Essex: off-peak lane closures and speed restrictions at Jn 8 (Stansted airport).

M11 Essex: contraflow, Jns 8-10 (Bishops Cleeve/Oxford). Carriageway closures at weekends.

M27 Hampshire: roadworks, Jns 3-4 (Southampton/A33).

M27 Hampshire: flyover construction between M27 and Rudmore roundabout.

M3 Hampshire: lane restrictions, Jns 7-9 (Basingstoke/Winchester); southbound entry slip closed at Jn 7.

M2 Kent: contraflow at Jn 4 (Gillingham).

M20 Kent: contraflow, Jns 1-2 (M25/Wrotham).

Midlands

M1 Leicestershire: contraflow, Jns 24-25 (A6/Northington).

M5 Hereford/Worcester: lane closures, Jns 5-6 (Bromsgrove/Worcester north). Northbound entry slip closed at Jn 6.

Overnight carriageway closures.

M5 West Midlands: lane closures, Jns 1-2 (West Bromwich/Birmingham West).

M6 Warwickshire: lane closures, Jns 4-4a (Coleshill/M42).

North

M62 Greater Manchester: in 14 (Worsley interchange) offside lane closures; single lane only southbound from the Kearsley spur to the M62 westbound.

M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow, Jns 25-26 (A644 Brighouse/M606 Bradford).

M63 Greater Manchester: Barton Bridge widening; construction of M63 flyover at Portwood roundabout, Stockport.

M1 West Yorkshire: contraflow, Jns 39-40 (Wakefield/Deodry); slip road closures at Jn 40.

M1/A61 South Yorkshire: bridge repairs at Tankersley interchange. Lane restrictions.

Wales and West

M4 Gwent: crash barrier repairs, Jns 25-27 (Caerleon/High Cross).

M4 Mid-Glamorgan: crash barrier repairs, Jns 34-37 (Llantrisant/Portkerry).

M4 Glamorgan: lane closures, Jn 36 (A4061 Bridgend).

M4 West Glamorgan: lane closures, eastbound at Jn 45 (A4067).

M5 Gloucestershire: contraflow, Jns 11-12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester).

M5 Gloucestershire: contraflow, Jns 23-25 (A38/Tunton) and lane closures northbound at Jn 26 (Wellington) and between Jns 27 and 28 (Tiverton/Cullompton).

Scotland

M8 Lothian: eastbound traffic on hard shoulder only; no access from A899 at Livingston.

M8 Strathclyde: lane closure eastbound, Jns 27-29 (Renfrew/Paisley).

M73 Strathclyde: lane closure northbound north of Jn 2 (M8).

M74 Strathclyde: lane closures north of Jn 12 (A70).

M9 Central Scotland: lane closures, Jns 5-6 (Grangemouth/Falkirk).

M90 Fife: lane closures, Jn 1 (Admiralty flyover) near Firth of Forth.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch

Car computers will cut down huge traffic jams

By Our Transport Correspondent

Computerized route guidance systems could by the mid-1990s be cutting down traffic jams such as the one which brought Central London to a virtual standstill last Monday.

A small system, with limited capabilities, goes on trial early next year, and within a few years it is expected to lead to a system which will cover the whole of London. It will feed into computers in cars information on traffic conditions and advice of the best and least congested route to drivers' destinations.

Mr Jeremy Hawksley, of the pressure group Movement for London, who is an expert on London's traffic, said the system, known as Autoguide, could revolutionize traffic management in London in the 1990s.

The Automobile Association said that it should, in principle, alleviate the problems of traffic congestion which occurred in London last week.

A fully developed system would have hundreds of computerised beacons at road junctions throughout London

relaying information via a central computer to the motorist.

The trial system now being installed is, however, much more limited. So far, five beacons have been installed, three in the West End, one on the M4 and one at Heathrow Airport, and a handful of cars are having computers fitted.

In the trials to be carried out, probably in February, the system will not take account of actual traffic conditions but will tell the driver only what would normally be the best route from his starting point to his destination.

The development of Autoguide, which is being co-ordinated by the Department of Transport and its Transport and Road Research Laboratory, is only one of several schemes on which European car manufacturers and others are working.

Another forthcoming device to keep drivers up to date with road conditions is a car radio, on which programmes are automatically interrupted to provide traffic news.

Greetings from Le Mont-Dore

Dinner party at the Chalet.

Jules Verne outlined the plot of his latest manuscript, "Journey to the Bottom of the Garden".

I sipped my Benedictine and suggested he write something with a little more depth to it.

J.P.B.

A UNIQUE AND SECRET BLENDING OF 27 HERBS AND SPICES

Pour les bons mots

WORLD ROUNDUP

'Transplant' baby birth imminent

New York — Doctors at a California hospital were yesterday awaiting the birth of a baby known to have most of its brain missing so that they could keep it alive artificially and — with the parents' permission — use its organs in transplant operations later (Charles Brenner writes).

In a case which has aroused controversy and challenged medical ethics, Loma Linda University Medical Centre is planning to keep the anencephalic child on a life support for a week to ensure that its organs remain healthy for donation. Under American law, a doctor must declare a donor brain-dead before removing organs for transplant. However, anencephalics die slowly and, by the time death occurs, their vital organs have become useless for transplant.

Critics of the plan say it is ethically wrong to prolong a life solely for the purpose of harvesting organs.

Protest at Fake card bombing

Madrid — Several thousand people yesterday joined relatives of the 11 victims of Friday's car-bomb attack on a Civil Guards barracks in Zaragoza to demonstrate for the return of the death penalty for acts of terrorism, as in Franco's day (Richard Wigg writes).

The demonstrators broke away from a silent march "for peace and against terrorism" through Zaragoza's streets, in which local people estimated that more than 200,000 took part, to protest at the blast, allegedly the work of the Basque separatist guerrilla group, Eta.

Fake card gang held

Paris — French police claim to have broken up a sophisticated network responsible for forging tens of thousands of credit cards. About 30 people have been arrested over the past week in co-ordinated raids in Paris and Marseille and in Spain (Philip Jacobson writes).

Those arrested included a notorious gangster, Serge Couët, who escaped from jail by helicopter in 1981. A number of criminals formerly involved in the drugs trade are alleged to be behind the racket, which had been producing 500 Carte Bleu credit cards a month.

Russia in nuclear test

Moscow (AP) — The Soviet Union yesterday set off a nuclear explosion, the first since last week's signing of the superpower disarmament accord. Tass said that the blast, with a yield of between 20 and 150 kilotons, was carried out in Semipalatinsk "with a view to upgrading military equipment". It was at least the 20th explosion reported since Moscow ended a nuclear testing moratorium in February after having observed a unilateral ban for 19 months. The US and Russia have yet to agree on ending such tests.

£20m aid for India Shellfish recalled

Delhi — The British Government is planning to fund a £20 million expansion of primary education in the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Mr Christopher Patten, the Minister for Overseas Development, said yesterday (Michael Hamlyn writes). Mr Patten, who has spent 10 days touring British projects, has already signed four new aid agreements with India.

Ottawa — Canada has ordered the recall of shellfish from domestic and US markets as the search for a mysterious toxin intensifies (John Best writes). The move will allow further inspection of fresh clams, mussels and oysters. A Montreal man has died and 70 other Canadians fell ill after eating contaminated mussels from the Prince Edward Island area.

'Civil revolt' fear as Palestinian protests shake West Bank and Gaza**Israelis resort to bullets and batons**

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Despite a big build-up of Israeli troops in the occupied territories, the wave of violent demonstrations there continued over the weekend, with soldiers resorting to the use of live ammunition.

After six consecutive days of trouble, from the south of the Gaza Strip to the north of the West Bank, senior military sources are speaking in the Israeli press of a "civil revolt".

That assessment was dismissed by Mr Shmuel Goren, co-ordinator of activities in the territories and their day-to-day ruler. It was also played down by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, during an hour-long briefing to the Cabinet yesterday.

Troops opened fire yesterday on angry crowds in Gaza Strip camps, reportedly wounding at least 35 with another six needing hospital treatment for beatings.

Yesterday at Balata camp, near Nablus in the West Bank, a curfew was reimposed after stone-throwing youths protested at the Israeli Army breaking into 35 cars and going into 200 houses searching for some of the 30 or more demonstrators wounded in incidents the previous day. They had refused to go to hospital for treatment for fear



Blindfolded Palestinians forced to kneel after being arrested by Israeli troops at Mughazi refugee camp near Gaza yesterday.

of arrest. A petrol bomb and stones were thrown at a bus in Hebron, causing slight injuries to three soldiers on board. Troops then surrounded the

Islamic college in the town and cleared out stone-throwing students with tear gas and bullets, wounding one student. Strikes were staged in Ramallah, Al-Bireh, Nablus,

parts of East Jerusalem and Gaza. In Gaza, the area round Shifab hospital was sealed off by troops as relatives of the wounded and injured arrived

to donate blood and visit the sick. In scuffles outside, border police beat back the crowds, reportedly hitting women and children indiscriminately with their batons.

There is no doubt that the disturbances are more widespread and violent than for at least five years. The Army, criticized for using live ammunition so frequently, is increasingly using batons and rifle butts. Crack troops with military training in crowd control have been brought in. Hospitals report a rising number of patients needing treatment for broken limbs and bruising.

Brigadier General Shaikha Erez, head of the West Bank's civil administration, said yesterday: "There is no loss of control... things are under full control." Nevertheless, a dangerous spiral of violence is building up.

Tough Israeli action in putting down disturbances prompted Dr Ismet Abdel-Meguid, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, to cable a protest to his opposite number, Mr Shimon Peres, over the weekend. "Egypt unequivocally rejects the use of force by Israeli soldiers against the Palestinian inhabitants of the conquered Arab territories," he said, adding that "force begets force".

This firm language from the one Arab country with which Israel has a peace treaty comes on the eve of a UN debate on the behaviour of Israeli troops in the territories.

Nato faces up to its post-summit problems

With the appointment of Herr Manfred Wörner as Secretary General-designate of Nato, the Western alliance has solved one of the problems facing it in 1988. It now has to grapple with a much larger problem which has preoccupied Lord Carrington during his four years as Nato's leader: how to deal with the Gorbachov phenomenon, not least in arms control.

"The INF Treaty is a triumph for Nato," one senior official said as Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, briefed the alliance on the Washington summit on Friday before weekend talks with the European Economic Community on transatlantic relations. "The Russians are giving up more than we are, but our real problems begin here."

For Herr Wörner, who takes office next July, the problem of coping with Russia is not new. His appointment reflects the key position held by West Germany in West European strategy and geopolitics. West Germany is Europe's front line against the

Warsaw Pact, and the next stages of disarmament — reducing conventional imbalances, chemical weapons and, ultimately, short-range and tactical battlefield nuclear weapons — affect German interests directly.

The head of Nato's military committee is already a German, General Wolfgang Altenburg, so that for the first time leading Nato positions are held by West Germans. Coincidentally, the run-up to Lord Carrington's retirement next summer is also the period during which Bonn holds the EEC presidency.

Herr Wörner, aged 53, was initially opposed for the post by Mr Kaare Willoch, the former Prime Minister of Norway, but last month Oslo withdrew to avoid the embarrassment of a contested election.

Herr Wörner is acknowledged by Britain, America and other states to be highly capable. A former Luftwaffe pilot, he became Defence Minister in Bonn in 1982. He

opposed the double-zero INF solution which culminated in last week's treaty and also objected to the abolition of West Germany's Pershing IA missiles, seen as an obstacle to an arms deal. On both questions he lost to Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, whose more dovish views prevailed in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition.

But with the INF deal accomplished, Herr Wörner fully supports

Brussels View
By Richard Owen

the alliance position and, according to German officials, will promote further disarmament measures "provided they are consistent with European security interests".

The question he and other Nato leaders have to decide as 1988 approaches is what those interests are. At Reykjavik in June, Herr Genscher insisted on the need for a

comprehensive alliance approach to arms control in the Gorbachov era. Both he and Herr Wörner want to avoid a situation in which Nato is always responding — or gives the impression of responding — to Gorbachov initiatives.

The final Nato communiqué on Friday contains some hints of an alliance approach. It referred to the continuing fundamental differences between East and West, but also noted "a more forthcoming Soviet attitude" which could lead to real progress in arms control.

Nato, the statement said, was ready to explore all possibilities with "realism and open-mindedness", basing Western policy on "actual Soviet and Warsaw Pact conduct and a sober calculation of the implications for our own security".

The same outline of a future Western approach to Mr Mikhail Gorbachov after the Washington summit came from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who during the Nato Council coupled a

welcome for the new climate in East-West relations with a warning that the West must clearly distinguish between the substance of Soviet policy and the "surface gloss" of the Gorbachov style.

The Soviet leader, Sir Geoffrey pointed out, constantly referred to "new thinking" in Moscow. Nato should therefore test Mr Gorbachov's intentions in key areas such as the Gulf, Afghanistan, human rights, Cambodia, as well as chemical weapons and conventional forces.

As he ponders this and other advice from leading Western figures while preparing to leave Bonn for Brussels, Herr Wörner — who resembles Lord Carrington in his polished manner and sharp intellect, though without Lord Carrington's languid wit — will not only have to get to grips with a Western strategy for dealing with Mr Gorbachov but also ensure that Nato presents its own policies more effectively to Western public opinion.

INF shapes non-nuclear tactics

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

After the success of the West's strategy of negotiating from strength to secure a deal on intermediate-range nuclear missiles, the same approach is to be taken with conventional weapons.

An increase in conventional defence spending may be adopted as a way of giving greater urgency to international talks on reducing force levels in Europe.

A hint of the West's approach was given yesterday during a visit to Denmark by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, where he called on Nato countries to increase their contributions to the organization.

A senior American official added: "If you want the same level of security but at lower levels of arms — whether nuclear or conventional —

then you have to negotiate those answers and you have to go to the table strong. The message will be this is not the time to throw defence budgets to the wind."

This would mirror the West's "twist-and-run" approach, which led to last week's signing in Washington of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty. Nato's decision in 1983 to match the Warsaw Pact's deployment of SS20 missiles with cruise and Pershing 2 weapons proved a crucial factor in securing Kremlin agreement to the West's long-standing proposal to abolish the whole class of missiles.

The West now faces a parallel situation on conventional arms. East-West talks in Vienna on troop cuts have been log-jammed for 14

years, while "talks about talks" on a new mandate for discussions within a wider forum have made slow progress. As with the INF negotiations, one of the stumbling blocks has been Soviet reluctance to accept asymmetrical reductions, meaning that the Warsaw Pact would make deeper cuts than the West because its forces are greater.

The importance of an agreement on conventional forces has been strongly emphasized by Mrs Thatcher, who has said that there should be no reductions in short-range nuclear weapons in Europe until it is achieved. In the US, Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate armed services committee, has suggested threatening to hold up implementation of the INF Treaty

The issue was overshadowed by the INF Treaty at the Washington summit between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov. But it was reported in West Germany yesterday that the summit produced an agreement to carry out a count of present conventional force levels, to provide a starting point for the new Vienna talks. Mr Frank Carlucci, the US Defence Secretary, said in a newspaper interview that he and Mr Dmitri Yazov, the Soviet Defence Minister, were instructed to organize the count. This would be an important preparatory move, because until now each side has disputed the other's figures, with the Warsaw Pact refusing the West's claim that it has a substantial superiority in conventional forces.

Gorbachov expected to make TV address

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The official Soviet media yesterday adopted a uniform and near-euphoric approach to the outcome of the Washington summit, indicating that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov intends to try to use its success to help strengthen his domestic position at a time when conservatives in the Kremlin are flexing their political muscles.

Senior diplomats expect Mr Gorbachov to capitalize on what is being depicted as a great foreign policy triumph for Moscow and its "new political thinking" by making a televised address to the Soviet public. At the same time there is persistent speculation that a full plenary session of the Communist Party Central Committee will be called before the end of the year, and possibly later this week.

When the 307-member Central Committee meets, one of its tasks will be to confirm the departure from

the Politburo of Mr Boris Yeltsin, the disgraced Kremlin reformer, and to consider whether his position will be filled immediately or left vacant. His departure is widely seen by Soviet intellectuals as a triumph for the conservatives, who are led by Mr Yegor Ligachev, aged 66.

"The hardliners are making it clear to Gorbachov that there are strict limits to the pace of change. Now that the summit is behind him, he can either choose the easy option and go along with them, or stand up to them and reassert his own leadership," one diplomat said.

The common assumption among Western and East bloc observers is that, for the present, until the all-party conference next June at which the composition of the Central Committee can be changed, Mr Gorbachov will accept the reigning-in of glasnost.

Leading article, Page 11

Bush sounds warning on 'defence muscle'

The United States could not endure further significant cuts in the "muscle of defence", and would now have to modernize conventional weapons to protect itself, Vice-President George Bush said yesterday.

He said that only if the United States got a good agreement on conventional forces could it start to spend less on defence.

Mr Bush also said in a television interview that, although everyone would like to see a nuclear-free world, "it'll be a long time before that could possibly be achieved". But he believed President Reagan would achieve a 50 per cent cut in strategic nuclear weapons.

The Vice-President, whose candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination has been given a strong boost by last week's summit, said there were still differences with Moscow over the US Strategic Defence Initiative. He insisted that, as President, he would

press ahead with it. Mr Bush, in reply to Senator Robert Dole and other Republican candidates who said they still did not trust Mr Gorbachov, insisted that Mr Reagan was equally wary.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the former Defence Secretary, was even more sceptical. In a weekend interview, he maintained his hard line towards the Soviet Union, which he pointedly referred to still as an "evil empire", and said that "Washington went mad" at the summit.

But the latest poll showed that 76 per cent of Americans believe the superpowers are entering a new era of improving relations. Some 82 per cent also think that the summit led to important accomplishments in relations between the countries.

The survey further shows Mr Gorbachov as the clear winner of the talks: 39 per cent believe he was more forceful and effective with 34 per cent choosing Mr Reagan.

Socialists gain ground from Martens

From Richard Owen Brussels

Early predictions in yesterday's Belgian election suggested that the Christian Democratic Party of Dr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister, had lost ground to the two Socialist parties, one French-speaking and the other Flemish.

Computer projections, based on a sample of constituencies in Flanders, showed there was a drop in support for Dr Martens significant enough to alter the complexion of the ruling coalition of Christian Democrats and Liberals.

But observers said that even after the final result there will be weeks of

manoeuvring before it becomes clear whether Dr Martens will continue as Prime Minister.

There was a heavy turn-out yesterday in cold but dry weather. The election was called several months early because of increasingly vociferous differences within the coalition over the Belgian language dispute.

A local conflict over a French-speaking mayor in a Flemish district, who refused to acknowledge that he spoke Flemish (Dutch) and was repeatedly removed from office and then reinstated, became a crisis of national proportions which brought down Dr Martens's sixth successive coalition.

Opinion polls before the election suggested a rise in support for the Socialists, particularly in Wallonia, the French-speaking south of Belgium, although not enough to allow the Socialists to govern on their own.

Commentators said that the most likely outcome was a new coalition, possibly with the Christian Democrats governing with the Socialist parties rather than with the Liberals.

Any change in the coalition is not expected to alter Belgian policies radically, since all mainstream Belgian parties are committed to a mixed economy at home and dedicated to membership of Nato and the EEC.

THE
FAMOUS GROUSE
Quality in an age of change.

مكتبة الشرح

Ceausescu forced to tackle unrest as party officials meet

By Richard Bassett

As the Romanian Communist Party conference, normally a routine affair, gets under way today, there are signs that President Ceausescu will have to tackle growing political unrest besides the usual items on the agenda.

The Romanian leader's absence from Warsaw Pact talks in East Berlin on Friday after the Gorbachov-Reagan summit meeting has fuelled speculation that recent disturbances in Transylvania have shaken his normally Olympian air of confidence.

The unrest, and the Government's attitude to it, have served only to underline how out of step modern Romania is with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's ideas of *glasnost*.

Unique among the Warsaw Pact media, the Romanian press played down the summit meeting and kept the reporting of events in Washington to a minimum. Unlike other East European leaders, Mr Ceausescu did not send congratulatory telegrams to President Reagan and Mr Gorbachov.

According to Western observers, Mr Ceausescu may have been unwilling to face in East Berlin other Communist leaders who are increasingly

anxious about the situation in Romania.

There can be little doubt that, whatever Mr Ceausescu will say at the conference, one of the topics discussed in East Berlin, along with the results of the INF Treaty, was what to do with Romania.

There is a belief that Mr Ceausescu's highly personal and — in Mr Gorbachov's

Vienna — Petrol-soaked tyres were put round a 50 ft statue of Lenin in Bucharest and set alight, apparently as a protest against President Ceausescu. Western diplomats in the Romanian capital said yesterday (Reuters reports). No serious damage was caused in the night-time attack, which occurred about a week ago.

view — distasteful style of autocratic leadership is doomed and that when the end comes it may not be only the Romanian leader who is sacrificed in the ensuing chaos. Not only is Romania a bad advertisement for communism, it also threatens to destroy the entire system as practised there.

The Romanian conference will discuss economic and

domestic "reforms", including territorial restructuring that will create larger, more easily policed communities in the rural regions, where disaffection with Mr Ceausescu's regime is greatest.

● PARIS: An exile group said yesterday that Romanian police have arrested two dissidents and one of their sons in an effort to silence criticism of President Ceausescu (Reuters reports).

The League for the Defence of Human Rights in Romania said Doina Cornea, a former lecturer in French at Cluj-Napoca University, was seized at her home about three weeks ago and had not been heard of since. Her son, Leontin Iubas, an electrical engineer, was also detained, the group said.

The arrests came after an interview given by Cornea to France's Antenne 2 television network, in which she condemned the "systematic disappearance" of government critics.

Another dissident interviewed by Antenne 2, Radu Filipescu, was arrested on Saturday in Bucharest, a spokesman for the exile group said.

India revels in its 'royal' wedding



The bridegroom in republican India's own "royal" wedding, Mr Vikramaditya Singh, seated, receiving advice from his younger brother, Ajit Singh, during his marriage to Miss Chitrangada Raje Scindia at Gwalior, in Madhya Pradesh.

minister in the Gandhi Cabinet welcoming tens of thousands to the festivities dressed in a bejewelled silken coat.

The occasion saw Miss Scindia, the daughter of Mr Madhav Rao Scindia, who would be the Maharajah of Gwalior if only maharajahs had not been abolished, and who serves as Railways Minister, marrying Mr Vikramaditya Singh, son of Dr Karan Singh, a minister under the Janata regime and — if there were such things — Maharajah of Kashmir. Because the laws drawn up to curb public

ostentation during the present drought emergency limit the number of guests at a wedding to 500, the 50,000 or more who turned up to watch the ceremony were given no more than a cup of coffee. But the crowd was as ostentatious as could be.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi decided to distance himself from the three-day celebration which began on Friday, but Mr Shankar Dayal Sharma, the Cambridge-educated Vice-President, represented official India. The King and Queen of Nepal, relatives of the bride, also attended.

Fiji envoy to London is former army chief

From A Correspondent, Suva

The Republic of Fiji's new High Commissioner to Britain will be the Army commander who was ousted in the first military coup last May. Brigadier Ratu Epeli Nailatikau — a son-in-law of Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the newly-installed Prime Minister — hopes to fly to London next month.

Ratu Epeli, who is in his mid-forties and a keen golfer, had been suspended from the Army since the first coup on May 14. He was on an official visit to Australia when his third-in-command, Brigadier (then Lt-Colonel) Sitiveni Rabuka, staged the coup and deposed the Indian-majority coalition Government.

Brigadier Rabuka said this weekend, when Ratu Epeli visited him at his barracks in Suva, that there were "no ill feelings" between them.

Ratu Epeli will succeed as High Commissioner Mr Sailosi Kepa, who has been named Attorney-General and Minister for Justice.

The week-old civilian Government will be making further appointments to overseas missions in coming weeks as it seeks international recognition for the republican constitution as a step towards achieving stability and repairing the economy.

Elections in Nigeria

Violence and poll confusion mar test of democracy

From Susan MacDonald, Lagos

Violence and voting chaos have marred Nigeria's local government elections, a first step by the military ruler, President Babangida, to return the country to civilian rule by 1992.

Voters, who were told by the Government that it was their duty to vote and who held the unfounded belief that it would be held against them if they did not, turned out in their thousands before polling was due to start at 8am on Saturday only to find many polling booths deserted, with no sign of officials or ballot boxes.

Moreover, the deliberate lack of any real election campaign, to avoid a return to corrupt political practices, a strange form of voting and some vote-rigging meant that many people had no idea which candidate to vote for.

The distribution of ballot boxes and voting papers was chaotic. In some areas polling did not start until noon, although it was due to end at 3pm, while in a few stations it never started at all.

Incompetence by the National Electoral Commission, set up to organize the election, meant that ballot boxes and voting papers were not ready for distribution and many of those that were sent to the wrong polling stations. The shambles was aggravated by the fact that the Government had prohibited freedom of movement during polling hours to lessen the risks of multiple voting.

"It had to be a last-minute operation," a Nigerian journalist said, "because to have had the ballot boxes ready earlier would have given time for them to be tampered with."

As it was, several officials were arrested for malpractice and in at least two areas people were arrested the night before carrying already completed voting slips.

In the parts of Lagos that I visited, patient queues became angry as the hours dragged by. In more than one area officials were beaten up when they eventually arrived. Many of those who continued to wait

found that their names were not on the voting list, despite holding valid registration cards.

Among those refused permission to vote for this reason were the wife of the state governor of Lagos, Mrs Josephine Akhigbe, and the Oba of Lagos, Adeyinka Oyedun.

Violence erupted as angry voters besieged local council headquarters demanding to know what was happening. At Mushin, on Lagos mainland, a tall man stood in the middle of a threatening crowd, shouting at the electoral officer. "There are no free and fair elections in Nigeria," he roared.

I passed men and women still in queues at 3pm, when voting was due to end, who I had passed at 9am that morning. The electoral commission was forced to extend the voting, but still thousands were unable to cast their ballot.

There were several incidents of violence in the Lagos area, with polling booths being set on fire and ballot boxes destroyed. In the evening, police and public officials called for calm after young boys had taken to the streets burning tyres and smashing cars. One such group reportedly set fire to a sub-power station.

The BBC correspondent and I were physically threatened by youths who descended on us in Lagos as we tried to find out why local polling booths had been smashed and ballot box contents strewn over the street.

The electoral commission, headed by Professor Enelewa, appeared to be in a state of shock yesterday as it met to decide which state must hold fresh elections.

Only one man yesterday seemed to be happy that he had not cast his vote. In true Nigerian fashion, the Ooni of Ife, Oba Okunade Sijunade, stated that he had refused to cast his vote for Oramuyi local government councillors because all the candidates were his children and he did not want to be accused of favouritism by picking one.

Leading article, page 11

Kollek anger over Sharon's new flat

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

To the fury of Mr Teddy Kolek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, Mr Ariel Sharon, Israel's controversial Minister of Trade and Industry, has rented a two-roomed flat in the heart of the Muslim quarter of the Old City.

Mr Sharon, a belligerent supporter of Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, has been renovating the flat ready for a special house-warming tomorrow, to coincide with the start of the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah — the festival of lights which commemorates the rededication of the Temple by Judas Maccabaeus.

Mr Kolek was invited to the party, but will definitely not be going. In a letter which he made sure was published, Mr Kolek accused the former Defence Minister of providing extremist Palestinians with a perfect tool to stir up trouble and so weaken Israel's claim to a unified Jerusalem.

Arabs in the Muslim quarter would no doubt interpret the move as part of a plan to drive them out of the neighbourhood.

Because of Mr Sharon's reputation, police are bracing themselves for an angry demonstration when guests arrive for his house-warming. The flat can be reached only on foot from the Damascus Gate, so security threatens to be a real problem.

The flat is in a building occupied by Jews until the Arab riots of 1929. It was administered by Jordan until Israel captured the Old City in 1967, and since then has been leased to an Arab merchant. He was evicted in September last year for failing to pay his rent. Now Mr Sharon has been sold the lease.

Jewish groups have been trying to regain the area, because they claim it was lost to Jews in the 1929 riots.

LAST MONDAY, THE TIMES CHALLENGED

TWELVE UK COURIERS TO DELIVER A PACKAGE

FROM ONE END OF THE COUNTRY

TO THE OTHER OVERNIGHT.

ONLY DATAPOST ACHIEVED IT.

Last Monday The Times ran an article testing the relative merits of the UK's top courier services.

The task. To deliver a 2lb package from Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, to Talmine, northern Scotland. Overnight.

Of the twelve they called, nine declined.

Including DHL. Apparently some mountains are too high after all.

Federal Express. They absolutely, positively refuse to handle packages for private individuals.

And Securicor. No ifs, buts or maybes from them.

They definitely weren't going.

And what of the three who went? TNT. Red Star. And Datapost.

For their pains. TNT charged a colossal £25. And arrived a colossal 51 hours late. Red Star, on the other hand, charged a mere £18.40. And were merely a day late.

And Datapost? For the princely sum of £13.90, we said we'd be there by midday, next day.

Admittedly, delivery at 5.30pm was a bit wide of the mark. But we did deliver it the next day. The only courier to do so. And a full 20 hours ahead of our nearest rival. So if your business needs the fastest express courier around, ask yourself this.

Who can you really depend on?

Datapost

Stable future hinges on losers' reaction to result of fiercely-fought presidential election

South Korean voters reach political crossroads

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

By the end of this week, depending on who one believes, South Korea will either be contemplating a glowing future as a stable democracy or be convulsed by civil disorder.

The deciding factor will be the result of the country's first direct presidential election for 16 years and, equally importantly, how the electorate reacts to it.

Three candidates have emerged from a turbulent election campaign with realistic

Seoul — A South Korean Army deserter stormed a crowded discotheque in Pusan, killing a teenage boy and holding 60 people hostage for more than seven hours before surrendering early yesterday (Reuters reports). Six other people were injured as Private Choi Hae Man, aged 21, sprayed the club with bullets.

prospects of winning the poll on Wednesday, and therein lies the problem. With each of them assured of substantial support, the victor will probably begin his five-year term next February with less than an overall majority.

Thus, speculation is focused as much on the aftermath of the election as on the result itself. Mr Roh Tae Woo of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, and Mr Kim Dae Jung and Mr Kim Young Sam, his main opposition challengers, have each predicted dire consequences if they are not elected.

Much will depend upon whether the polling is perceived to be conducted fairly. Opposition leaders have been

vociferously accusing Mr Roh's supporters of illegal campaign practices and of planning to rig the vote.

Mr Kim Dae Jung's Party for Peace and Democracy has been drawing attention to various ways in which it expects fraud to be committed on Wednesday.

The DJP rejects the allegations, and indeed the prospect of large-scale fraud appears remote. In addition to statutory provisions for representatives of each party to observe the voting and counting, religious and student groups have mobilized thousands of volunteers to monitor the proceedings for any cheating.

Mr Roh, the chosen successor of President Chun Doo Hwan, has been trying to distance himself from his austere former army colleague with pledges of genuine democratic reforms.

At the weekend he promised that, if elected, he would submit his record to "interim appraisal by the public" after the Olympic Games in Seoul next autumn, although he gave no commitment to step down if the verdict was unfavourable.

Independent observers believe Mr Roh to be a sincere and capable politician, but doubt whether he can persuade enough voters that his glasnost is genuine.

The orchestrated enthusiasm displayed at his campaign rallies is an unreliable guide. Employees of a large company who attended a meeting on Saturday said they had been instructed to do so by their superiors. "We had no



Mr Kim Dae Jung, protected by aides carrying riot shields, attending a rally in Seoul yesterday during the final stages of his presidential election campaign

choice because they said there would be a roll-call here," one said.

Mr Kim Dae Jung, the most charismatic of the candidates, probably has the most loyal support, drawn from students and lower-paid workers. His intelligence and forceful character are widely admired, but

there is concern that he may be too aggressive and likely to exact revenge for years of persecution under successive military-backed regimes.

This leaves Mr Kim Young Sam of the Renovation Democratic Party, who many voters favour as the man who can lead their mutiny against

military rule without rocking the boat too much.

He has had a successful campaign, attracting support from such diverse notables as a former army chief of staff, an erstwhile woman presidential candidate, and a disaffected senior aide of Mr Kim Dae Jung.

He has made blunders but they may have endeared him to people accustomed to distant, oppressive rulers.

It is generally accepted that Mr Kim is less likely than his rivals to arouse strong opposition if elected, and this could tip the balance in his favour.

Independent analysts take a more sanguine view of the future than partisan party officials.

Mr Han Sung Joo, a professor of political science at Korea University in Seoul, believes the tide has turned irreversibly against authoritarian rule and that a new era of democracy is assured.

Scholars row over rebuilt temple

From Mario Modiano, Athens

One of the most outstanding examples of classical Greek architecture on the Acropolis of Athens, the Erechtheion, was restored to public view yesterday after nine years of conservation work.

Action to rescue this elegant, fifth century BC, marble temple from the decay wrought by air pollution, earthquakes and rusty joints used in previous restorations began in 1978 with the approval of a conference of international experts.

The project, which cost \$1 million, is now at the centre of a controversy between archaeologists, who believe that the restoration of ancient ruins should stop short of adulterating the evidence, and restorers who favour enhancing the artistic merit of a monument and making it intelligible to the layman.

In the Erechtheion project, priority was given to the removal of the Caryatids, the statues of maidens that supported the south porch. These marble figures were eroded by smog, which virtually obliterated their facial features. Four originals are now exhibited in the Acropolis museum, protected inside glass containers filled with inert gas.

The six Caryatids on the restored Erechtheion are copies moulded in cement mortar from the originals, including one kept in the British Museum as part of the Elgin collection.

Also in the British Museum is one of the six Ionic columns from the temple's eastern portico, which was also carried away by Lord Elgin in 1802. Its replacement by a cement copy during the present restoration has become a source of argument on the Acropolis committee.

The main task of the restorers has been to dismantle the marble temple, block by block, and replace the lost clamps inserted by earlier restorers, which had rusted and cracked the stones, with joints made of a rust-free titanium alloy.

A computer was used to identify and relocate ancient blocks that had been wrongly repositioned when the ruins were rebuilt at the turn of the century. And fragments lying about the site were integrated in the restoration.

These initiatives, however, have caused heated debates in the Acropolis committee. Dr George Dostas, a former Director of the Acropolis and the first person to appreciate the damage that pollution was doing to the monuments, believes that the restorers took too many liberties by introducing new materials in violation of the Charter of Venice, which lays down rules for the conservation of ancient monuments.

Mr Alexandros Papanicolaou, the architect in charge of the Erechtheion project, who yesterday received a European prize for his work, in the presence of Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, rejected allegations that he had transgressed the Charter.

"The new blocks and new pieces used to fill out ancient fragments were given a distinctive surface to be distinguishable as the Charter requires," he said. "The artificial patina applied to the surface of the new marble tones down the glaring difference."

The controversy does not end here. Continuing restoration work on the Parthenon, the main monument on the Acropolis, promises to throw up further spirited debate.

Rail crash blamed on driver who fell asleep

Moscow (AFP) — Thirty people were killed and 60 others were injured in a rail crash between Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, and the Caspian port of Baku on November 29, Pravda reported.

The accident happened when a driver fell asleep and his goods train rammed a passenger train. Two officials on the Tbilisi-Baku line were sacked and thrown out of the Communist Party and five other employees were sanctioned for negligence.

The punishments had been decided at a recent meeting of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, Pravda said. Its report denounced slack discipline among workers on the main Georgia-Azerbaijan line.

US evacuation after gas blast

Round Rock, Texas (AP) — The authorities waited for fires to burn out at the site of a goods train derailment which triggered a propane gas explosion and forced thousands of people to flee from their homes. No injuries were reported.

The police said: "We've still got the evacuation on, but some people have slipped back."

Death toll up

Cairo (Reuters) — The death toll from Friday's bus crash has risen to 64. The bus, carrying 130 children, was sliced in two by a speeding train.

Search ended

Peking (AP) — Searchers have given up hope that nine missing miners are still alive five days after an underground gas explosion at Huanan in Anhui province which killed 35.

Guns action

Sydney (Reuters) — New South Wales has become the first Australian state to propose toughening its gun laws after the shooting that left eight dead last week in Melbourne.

Climber dies

Kathmandu (Reuters) — Mr Lee Sung Ho, a South Korean climber trying to scale the world's third-highest peak, Mount Kangchenjunga, died while being escorted to a hospital here for treatment.

River passage

Kirkenes, Norway (Reuters) — A Soviet bus driver walking across a frozen river marking the Arctic border between his country and Norway and asked for political asylum, frontier officials said.

Managua defiance worries US

From Michael Blyson, Washington

US officials yesterday said they were concerned and worried by Nicaragua's defiant admission that it is engaged in a massive military build-up aimed at putting up to 600,000 people under arms by 1995 and equipping the Sandinista armed forces with advanced Soviet MIG jet fighters, missiles and artillery.

The admission came in a speech by Señor Humberto Ortega, the Minister of Defence, who apparently intended to pre-empt revelations by a leading Nicaraguan defector. It follows a hint by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev at his summit meeting talks with President Reagan that he was prepared to cut Soviet military supplies to Nicaragua.

Señor Ortega said in a combative speech to 600 union delegates in Managua at the weekend that Nicaragua did not intend to renounce the right to build up its forces. He said hundreds, if not thousands, of officers were now being trained in East bloc countries to handle the expected new equipment.

The speech, broadcast over the radio, said Nicaragua had the right to sign military agreements with the Soviet Union, Cuba and Czechoslovakia, and did not intend to renounce them.

"In a little while, we will be at 300,000," Señor Ortega said of the country's armed forces. "We are going to make the effort to have 600,000 men organized in the echelons of the general defence of the country."

His speech was prompted by news of the first interview, published in *The Washington Post* yesterday, in which the defector said the Sandinista Government had negotiated secret agreements with Moscow and Havana for a military build-up over the next seven years, including the delivery of MIG21 jet fighters and enough arms for a Sandinista Army of 500,000 men.

Major Roger Miranda Benegoechea, a former top aide to the Nicaraguan Defence Minister, also accused the Sandinistas of a secret strategy to turn the Central America re-

gional peace plan into a means to consolidate their control and eliminate the Contra rebels.

He said that, contrary to the plan, they were still supporting left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador, and he claimed they had a secret defence plan, in the event of a US invasion, to take US Embassy officials hostage and spread the conflict throughout the region, bombing Costa Rican targets.

Major Miranda's claims were made at a State Department interview arranged by aides to Mr Elliott Abrams, the Assistant Secretary of State.

The interview was held last week on the day that Mr Gorbachev offered, in his talks with President Reagan, to reduce Soviet military supplies to Nicaragua if President Reagan would abide by the Central America peace plan and halt aid to the Contras.

Mr Jim Wright, the Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, who has played a big role in the peace plan, said the Miranda inter-

view would not have any significant impact. Democrats said that the Soviet military support was well known and the Sandinistas wanted more. But they said that Mr Gorbachev's offer was much more significant.

Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, confirmed yesterday that Mr Gorbachev had made such an offer to Mr Reagan, saying he would halt all but "police weapons" to the Sandinistas. Mr Bush added that he had been very surprised by it.

● MANAGUA: The Nicaraguan Defence Minister said at the weekend that a captured American pilot shot down last Sunday was providing information about US supporters of Nicaraguan rebels in neighbouring Costa Rica (Reuters reports).

Señor Ortega said Mr James Jordan Denby had provided interrogators with "50 or 60" names of "rabidly anti-Sandinista" American Contra supporters living in Costa Rica.

Fears of terrorism cloud first Asean summit in decade

From Humphrey Hawkesley, Manila

Leaders of South-East Asian governments — representing the non-communist bloc of the region — arrived here yesterday for their first summit in 10 years.

While the meeting represents a stamp of approval from neighbouring capitals for the troubled Philippines Government of President Aquino, the main aim is the forging of closer ties between the six members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) to bring them closer to the EEC model.

But it is unlikely that there will be any breakthrough in economic or political co-operation, and the thousands of troops patrolling the capital are an indication of the participants' fears of attacks by guerrilla groups.

The leaders of Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and the tiny, oil-rich nation of Brunei flew in yesterday. Because of the tight security, President Aquino sent her daughter,

Kris, aged 16, and Cabinet officials to meet them.

President Suharto of Indonesia will arrive only an hour before the opening ceremony today.

Despite the security cordon a grenade was thrown at the Malaysian Embassy yesterday, injuring no one but causing slight damage. The attack came after the security forces found a number of explosive devices around the city last week. Two went off on Tuesday evening.

The incidents are being blamed on rebel soldiers loyal to the former President, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, but there are fears that other, better-organized groups, such as the Japanese Red Army, might be planning an operation to disrupt the summit.

Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Prime Minister of Japan, is due here on Tuesday at the end of the summit with a \$2 billion (£1.09 billion) aid package for the six countries.

Death penalty on Yemen exiles

By Andrew McEwan, Diplomatic Correspondent

Hopes of a reconciliation between North and South Yemen faded yesterday after the conviction in absentia of a former President of South Yemen on treason charges.

Aden's Supreme Court sentenced to death Mr Ali Nasser Muhammad and 34 of his followers for their role in South Yemen's brief civil war last year. Mr Ali Nasser had been working for gradual unity between North and South Yemen. Since January, 1986, when he was deposed, the new Government of President Attas has worked to continue the process with Sanaa, the North Yemen capital.

Among those sentenced in absentia with Mr Ali Nasser were the former Minister of State Security, the Governor

of Abyan province, the former Minister of Interior and the former Chief of Staff.

Mr Ali Nasser was ousted from power after carrying out a purge of his opponents in the Yemen Socialist Party. His personal guard was said to have fired on government ministers. Three died instantly and the incident set off fighting between rival political and tribal groups throughout the country. The Aden court said that 4,309 died. Most of the 30,000 who fled from South Yemen in 1986 live in North Yemen.

In a newspaper interview yesterday, Mr Ali Nasser said the trial had closed the door definitively on national reconciliation. He appealed for help from Arab and international leaders for a stay of the sentences against those present at the trial.

North Yemen's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Mr Abdul Karim Iryani, said: "It is a very disappointing event, especially after an appeal by the President to reconsider the case. The sentences were harsher than anyone expected."

President Saleh of North Yemen had called on South Yemen to drop the case against Mr Ali Nasser.

The verdicts by Aden's Supreme Court marked the end of a year-long trial of more than 100 people.



President Attas: Working for gradual unity with North.

Two police killed in Soweto ambush

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

In continuing violence in South Africa's black communities at the weekend, two black policemen were killed and four others wounded when unknown gunmen fired on their vehicle in Soweto, the sprawling black dormitory township south-west of Johannesburg, and two black civilians were stabbed to death in townships in Natal province.

A police spokesman said that the incident in Soweto occurred shortly before midnight on Saturday during a

change of shift at the Meadowlands police station. The policemen, who had been relieved, were being taken home in a police van when they came under fire.

Only one of the seven in the vehicle escaped injury. A number of expended AK47 rifle cartridges were found at the scene of the attack. The Soviet-made AK47 is one of the weapons used by guerrillas of the outlawed African National Congress.

Of the 59,658 men and women in the South African Police, 32,619 are whites, 20,169 blacks, 4,494 mixed-

race Coloureds and 2,376 Indians, according to figures released in Parliament last June by Mr Adrian Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order.

In addition, there are about 9,270 black municipal police in the townships — they are derisively dubbed "green beans" by locals because of the colour of their uniforms — who are separate from the SAP and are employed to protect the unpopular township councillors.

Last Thursday about 60 municipal police munitied at Sebokeng, south of Johannesburg, and were involved in a gun battle with an SAP anti-riot squad.

In Natal, police reported that a black mob stabbed a 20-year-old black man to death after first throwing stones at his house in the Mzumalangu township near Pietermaritzburg. A similar pattern accompanied the killing of another black man near Durban.

The killings appeared to be part of a continuing power struggle in the province between radical and conservative blacks.

Twisted answers to straight questions

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

Is anyone interested in knowing how many of the French believe in miracles? How many French women sleep in the nude and dream about making love out of doors? How many French husbands claim to be unfaithful several times a week and prefer red Bordeaux to all other wines?

Answers to these particular questions are at the foot of the article, but by the time you have digested them rest assured that another *sondage* — opinion poll — will be reporting on some arcane new aspect of *la vie Française*. At the last count there were 800 a year, perhaps a world record for "sondomania".

What makes this so odd is that the French must surely be among the least reliable raw material. To judge by those I know, they like nothing better than misleading pollsters, happily

declaring they intend to vote Socialist when they are card-carrying right-wingers, admitting to any number of outrageous beliefs when they are in truth the most conventional souls. Why? *Ce n'est pas leur affaire* — it's none of their business.

But even bearing in mind that responses need to be taken with more than a pinch of salt, there is endless diversion to be found in the pages of the recently published *100 per cent Français*. Based on the findings of hundreds of authentic polls, it ranges from sex to suicide, from cooking to culture by way of cars, confirming, as if it was necessary, that the French remain truly a breed apart.

Take the touchy business of courage. About 75 per cent of Frenchmen consider themselves to be brave enough fellows, yet 63 per cent of all conscripts do not feel quite ready to fight. As a nation, moreover, 90 per

cent of the French are petrified by the prospect of visiting the dentist (conceivably because they have so neglected their teeth).

Then there is the celebrated French preoccupation with bodily functions. At any given moment about one-third of the nation is worrying about its health, which may explain why roughly the same proportion would like their daughter to marry a *médecin* (though by no means everyone believes doctors will tell patients the worst).

On the subject of truth, can it really be correct that only 79 per cent of the population believe their politicians are liars? In my local bar one sometimes feels that an informal *sondage* would record 101 per cent agreement with that proposition.

Not that the French put much more faith in God: only 1 per cent think

about going into the church and barely 15 per cent consider themselves practising Catholics (it is uncertain if that includes the two women in every hundred who fantasize about making love wearing a nun's habit).

Finally, what should one make of the issues on which the French find themselves equally split? It is reassuring to learn that 50 per cent cannot understand a word of their insurance policies and habitually fall asleep in front of the television (well, have you ever seen French TV?) and intriguing to know that half the population thinks modern science will one day be able to explain witchcraft. And how could we have been unaware that 50 per cent of French Communists prefer Roquefort to all other cheeses?

● Answers in sequence: 46 per cent; 55 per cent; 100 per cent (!); 32 per cent; 29 per cent.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Insiders fall out

Judges' clerks are threatening to take the Lord Chancellor's department to court over pay. Their association has written to Lord MacKay's office saying it has informally taken legal advice and, unless its grievance is dealt with, it will "consider commencing judicial review proceedings without further notice." The row follows a restructuring of civil servants' grades which, since April, has wiped out an annual £238 salary differential between judges' clerks and Civil Service executive officers. Earlier attempts by the association to raise the matter with the department were pushed sideways to the civil servants' union. Since only 12 of the 108 clerks, who earn £11,500, are members, the CSEA has not been pressing their case. The association's vice-chairman, Neville Hinsley, tells me it has reluctantly concluded that the threat of court action is now the only option. "Our problem is that because we are so closely associated with the judiciary we don't want to cause embarrassment."

Top-rated

Public opponents of the poll tax are about to be joined by a former special adviser at the Environment Department. Chris Mockler, who worked there in Patrick Jenkin's day, has written a paper critical of the tax to be published by the Tory Reform Group on Wednesday — in time for the local government bill's second reading. While sympathetic to the aspirations behind rates reform, the group has previously expressed reservations about the government's proposal and its chairman, Sir Alan Greenough, tells me he expects this latest essay to attract the support of many TRG patrons in the Commons. With a number of senior Tory backbenchers already openly in favour of a "banded" charge in line with income rather than a flat rate tax, Thursday's vote should prove interesting.

Forging ahead

Equality of opportunity is paying some kind of dividend for American women. Statistics gathered by the FBI show that the number of women being arrested for embezzlement is increasing at a rate more than twice that of men. The increase in the number of men apprehended for the crime in the last five years was 27 per cent while the female rate was up by 65 per cent. The explanation, I'm told, is that women are taking advantage of the professional advances they have made in the last few years.

BARRY FANTONI



"Rescue? With Sue Lawley on her way you must be joking"

Festive snub

The hundreds who helped to ensure a packed house for Saturday's carol concert at the Royal Festival Hall will not have guessed that the tradition is under threat. For 20 years a massed choir of doctors and nurses from 13 London teaching hospitals has sung in the hall on behalf of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund — raising more than £18,000 each time. Now, however, the new South Bank Board has rejected the 1988 booking. Sylvia Curley, the chief organizer, says: "We make a proper booking and pay our way. But apparently we don't fit into next year's plans for an Oliver Messiaen festival — not what you or I would call music anyway." The RFB says it is trying to find the choir another date and has booked its 1989 concert. "We are not trying to chase the hospitals away," it insists.

Easy as ABC

The Young Conservatives believe they have an image problem. A paper entitled *Marketing the Young Conservatives*, discussed by the national advisory committee this weekend, admits that YCs are commonly seen as "socially uninspiring people looking for a wife/husband" (not such a far-fetched judgement given the marriage of two of its vice-chairmen, Sue Wallace and Martin Woodroffe). Within the party, it continues, they are associated with "mindless reactionary support for right-wing politics" — some feat for an outfit enjoying a history of wetness. Recommending a new emphasis on the YCs as a route to national politics, the report presses for the introduction of a new logo and slogan and concludes with "in" and "out" words for the new look. In come *go-ahead, influential, competent, and get cutting edge*. Out go *worthy, earnest, serious, radical, wet and freedom fighters*. PHS

Embryos: no experiments

by Enoch Powell

The title of the Unborn Children (Protection) Bill which I brought before the House of Commons in the session of 1984-85 was the only part of it carried over from a previous legislative session. It was calculated to raise one of two questions which I did not, and do not, think it necessary to pose in order that actions widely felt to be objectionable can be outlawed.

The question whether the human embryo is a human being, or at what stage it becomes one, can be endlessly and fruitlessly debated. It risks introducing into the discussion legal and moral terms like "murder" by way of metaphor or rhetoric. The Warnock Report fell into this trap itself when it recommended differentiating between embryos before and after the 14th day.

The other question which I believe needs to be held firmly at bay concerns the definition of "experiment": when is experiment not experiment? Any medical procedure is arguably of unpredictable outcome, and therefore something from which lessons can be learnt and experience gained by those who perform it. Yet we would not say that a doctor "experiments" whenever he prescribes for a patient.

The mischief which law aims to prevent is behaviour which is unacceptable or abhorrent to society generally. In this case Parliament was invited to declare in

the name of society that it is abhorrent to create or use a human embryo for any purpose other than to procure the birth of a normal human child — to subject it, for example, to procedures which will destroy it in order to increase the sum of knowledge generally.

This was the proposition to which I asked the House of Commons to give assent; and the result, whenever the House had the opportunity to make a decision, showed that it was by a heavy preponderance minded to give that assent. I choose the term "abhorrent" to describe what I regard as an instinctual attitude, though it is one which is often rationalized on religious or moral grounds by those who feel it.

The matter of the parentage of children born as a result of the creation of embryos outside the body is completely separate, and should be seen as completely separate, from the treatment of human embryos thus created, though of course it would not have arisen unless their creation *in vitro* had become feasible. Ultimately, however, the preservation of such embryos, for example by freezing, is bound to impinge upon the matter of parentage simply because of events, e.g. the death of a donor, which might occur during

the period of preservation. Thus it would be difficult without some restriction of time to limit by law the purpose for which an embryo may be created or used.

The criterion of purpose can be effectively applied to resolve problems which arise in the course of the improvement of the medical techniques.

For example, there has been, and I believe that there still is, a difference of professional opinion as to whether it is necessary or desirable, in order to improve the chance of a resultant birth, to create more embryos than are intended to be inserted either forthwith or subsequently. Where this is the object, there would be no reason to outlaw the creation of those extra embryos; but it would be unlawful to use them for any other purpose, such as laboratory examination involving their destruction, and they would not be preserved.

Again, progress is occurring or anticipated in the technique known as biopsy, which enables one of the identical cells composing an embryo to be detached and examined without damaging the viability of the remainder of the cell, in order to determine whether the latter is chromosomally normal. In my view, sustained by the legal advice which I received

during the examination of my bill, such examination of the embryo would lie within the lawful purpose of ascertaining the birth of a normal child, since that purpose must be held to exclude the obligation to insert embryos which are ascertainably defective.

Legislation on these lines would prohibit experiment in the natural sense of that word, namely, the creation or use of embryos apart from any purpose of insertion, in order to provide material for investigation with a view to increasing scientific knowledge. I hope that Parliament, in its forthcoming free vote, will continue to agree that this is not less abhorrent than it would have been if the technique had never developed of enabling a woman to bear a healthy child in circumstances in which she would otherwise have been unable to do so.

I hope also that Parliament will not attempt to evade its legislative responsibility by enacting that actions which would otherwise be abhorrent cease to be so if a licence to perform them has been issued by a statutory body. It is one thing to allow actions which are not objectionable in themselves to be done only under licence. It is quite different to enact that what is objectionable in itself becomes unobjectionable if licensed by a board. That way, which is the way of Warnock, lies abdication of the rule of law.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Tucking into the TUC

When the TUC and the CBI are in agreement, we had better start counting our spoons. It is not, of course, impossible for either of those absurd institutions to be right, though it is obviously very unlikely; it is not entirely out of the question for them both to be right at once, though the chance is so remote that it is safe for even the most cautious among us to proceed on the assumption that they are not.

But when I add that, in the matter I am about to discuss, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Conservative Trades Unionists Association are of a like mind, certainly is attained; they are all in the wrong. Indeed, they only need the City of London to add its voice for us to conclude that the Philosopher's Stone of carpentry has been found: a symmetrical five-legged table which wobbles wherever you lean on it.

The measure that has united such forces is the clause in the government's new Employment Bill which would make it unlawful for a trade union to expel or otherwise punish a member who refuses to go on strike even if a properly conducted ballot has resulted in a majority for doing so. It is agreed that this is undemocratic; if a union loses its immunity from legal action when its members strike without the sanction of a majority vote, or in defiance of one, surely the union should have the right to take action against a member who refuses to abide by a decision of the majority to down tools.

A few weeks ago a spokeswoman for the Institute of Directors, Miss Judith Chaplin, argued on this page the case for the disputed clause; the Institute, it seems, is alone in its approval of what has been dubbed, with all the charm for which the TUC is so famous, "the scabs' charter". Her case was skilfully put, but it rested entirely on logic, law and equity, and I do not believe that they constitute the force behind the government's resolve to have the clause in the bill — a bill, incidentally, which includes such clearly useful and important proposals as the obligation on unions to put their financial accounts in proper order as well as further checks on ballot-rigging and a widening of the range of union officials who must submit themselves to regular election.

I think the disputed clause looks much further ahead than any question of tidying up this government's union legislation, or strengthening safeguards against abuse. It seems to me that Mrs Thatcher is working towards a time when the unions, at any rate as they are today, have ceased to exist, and have become instead genuine friendly societies divorced from their present connection with industrial relations. For the truth is that the opponents of the controversial clause are right when they say that without the ultimate sanction of expulsion there is no longer any point in anybody belonging to a union at all.

Very gradually, via the Acts of 1980, 1982 and 1984, the boss constructor has been swallowing the goat, always pausing to digest one section before going on to the next. The present legislation withdraws legal immunity for the closed shop; the next swallow must surely be its proscription. Meanwhile, the unthinkable thought — "Why should I belong to a union now they can't touch me even for working during a strike?" — has been put into the heads of union members.

I have repeatedly argued that the only real

Mrs Thatcher is working towards a time when the unions, as they are today, cease to exist and become genuine friendly societies, divorced from their connection with industrial relations?

power the union leaders have is the power to keep their followers poor; we are, after all, less than a decade from a time when unions could and did fine their members for working too hard, and we are still emphatically in a time when they oppose all those initiatives, such as the MSC and merit payments, which lead to enterprise and expansion.

But, faster and faster, we are moving towards a society in which pay will be directly linked to individual performance. Any day now, it will begin to occur to union members that rates of pay are (and always have been) established by supply and demand, not by the Knapps and Gills and Sappers (the welkin is still ringing from the affronted squeals of the NUT when it was suggested that good teachers should be paid more than bad ones), and armed with the new bill's new protection, more and more of them will begin to wonder, when it is time to renew their membership or subscription, why they should bother.

That unions do have a function has been demonstrated in recent years by some of their more sensible leaders, with the EETPU in the van. But the function of tomorrow's unions will be very different from those of today's. Why do you suppose that the EETPU was regarded in the TUC as an enemy of the working class long before the events at Wapping? It was because Chapple and Hammond are enemies of the working class — if that is, you define the working class as a body of helots who may never aspire to affluence, self-betterment and a wider horizon, lest they should lose their obedience to their unions, their willingness to remain an undistinguishable mass, their contentment with a minimum which is also a maximum, their lowly status and even their rough accents. The sooner those attitudes vanish, the better a country this will be, and those who seek to root

them out are the true beneficiaries of the working class — as, indeed, the working class is rapidly recognizing.

For far too long the unions' function has been seen as principally, if not entirely, to struggle for more money against an employer reluctant to pay it. A real employment market would render that function unnecessary; we are only now struggling towards it, and we should not have had to wait for mass unemployment, even though the absence of such a market has contributed very substantially to the unemployment.

When the unions' role in wage bargaining is recognized as meaningless, it will leave them free to offer their members real opportunities, in insurance, health care, mortgages and travel, all bought cheaply because of the numbers involved, and sold at attractive prices.

As the judge in one of A.P. Herbert's *Misleading Cases* remarked, "There is no precedent for anything until it has been done for the first time." The withering away of the unions as now defined is to some an alarming thought. Yet no one can deny that the candle gave way to the electric light, the horse-drawn carriage to the motor car, and, for that matter, the habit of biting off the leg of a sabre-toothed tiger and chewing it raw when fire was discovered.

There is no need to ascribe to Mrs Thatcher supernatural powers of prescience and wisdom. Reality would eventually have had the same effect. The disputed clause in the Employment Bill will not transform our industrial relations. But it will begin to shift the thinking of union members. I have often drawn attention to what I have called the Fallacy of the Altered Standpoint, the erroneous belief that a development such as the legalization of voluntary euthanasia can be confined, once the step has been taken, to the measure itself. It cannot, once the new bit of the landscape has been fitted in, all sorts of new vistas, unthinkable before, will be opened up. I now realize that there is another, and positive, version of the Fallacy; once something unnecessary, restrictive and generally impoverishing is removed, the new vistas will be alive with new opportunities.

Hark! The boss constructor has woken up and belched. But what is that strange new bulge in the boss's outline? Oh, heavens! Where is Mr Ron Todd?

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How to cut the nation's divorce bill

Every year there are about 170,000 divorces in Britain. At this rate a third of current marriages are heading for dissolution, and one in five children under 16 will come from broken homes.

These are serious statistics, but they hardly cause a ripple in our divorce habituated society. Solicitors, judges, doctors, social workers, magistrates, teachers, clergy, and managers all see some of the suffering caused by marital breakdown, but none of them is able to assess the total impact on society.

The Marriage Research Centre, set up in 1971 to provide research, education and counselling, has attempted to calculate the overall financial cost, which it currently puts at about £2 billion a year.

For the year 1985/86 this is made up of nearly £108 million in legal costs, £1.110 million in supplementary benefits, paid mainly to divorced and separated women, £134 million on one-parent benefit (a major proportion of this is due to marital breakdown), an estimated £300 million

on children taken into care from broken homes, and the remainder — only an educated guess — on the cost to the Health Service, the police and courts, and employers. Some divorce is inevitable, but the current level and the damaging consequences are unacceptably high. Some see the answer in changing the laws and reverting to a stricter attitude. This is unlikely in the immediate future, and in any case it is questionable whether the law can effectively control such intensely personal behaviour. We need to move forward from the atmosphere of despair to a more constructive policy. I believe that the following points have to be seriously considered.

The first is to accept that, while society has every right to have easy access to divorce, it can no longer afford the serious social, economic and health hazards to the spouses and the social and psychological dangers to the children. We rightly spend millions trying to rescue children from these dangers, but how much better it

would be if we spent more money on supporting marital stability.

The first priority is to understand more clearly through research the reasons for marital conflict. Social and psychological factors interact with one another, and vary according to the stage of the marriage. Despite their complexity progress has been made. Having identified the critical areas of conflict, we have to train key people working with families, such as health visitors, doctors and social workers, in the task of early identification and timely intervention, supported by counselling by the existing agencies.

In schools we have spent the last 50 years teaching children the biology of sex; we need now to educate them in personal relationships, with the accent on feelings and emotions, to prepare them more adequately for marriage. We must move from sex education to education for loving. Such preparation should be extended to those who are about to be married. Despite the decline in religious

belief, some 60 per cent of first marriages still take place in church. The churches have a big responsibility to support marriage by recognizing that the wedding, far from being the conclusion of the church's involvement, is only the beginning.

Industry also needs to accept responsibility. The demands of the workplace can have an adverse effect on marriage and need to be constantly reassessed. Marital problems in their turn lower performance at work.

This is a programme which will realize its potential over time. It needs a commitment and financial support by government and society, but it is essential if we are to move away from permanently carrying out a first-aid rescue operation for spouses and children whose lives have been radically altered by marital breakdown.

Jack Dominian

The author is a consultant psychiatrist and director of the Marriage Research Centre.

Allan Massie

High politics as soap opera

Finding someone outside the business to speak well of television is like tracking down a pork butcher in Tehran. We all know the medium's sins. It trivializes whatever it touches; the juxtaposition of death in Lebanon with death dealt out by the A Team blurs reality; our children are in danger of corruption from sex and violence. (This rather contradicts the reality-blurring argument, but is still made by the same people.)

It trivializes politics. The issue is lost in the image. Political argument becomes just another chat show and politicians collide on *Wogan* with actresses from *Dallas*. Serious argument is out and the great speeches in which statements of the past were wove to deploy policy are no more. Harold Wilson pointed the way when he appeared with Morecambe and Wise. Now nobody would be surprised if Neil Kinnock turned up in *EastEnders*, and the only wonder is that he hasn't already; the modern Metternich, Henry Kissinger, had after all a walk-on part in *Dynasty*. British politics is most truly represented by *Yes Prime Minister*.

It is customary to deplore all this. Yet I wonder, for the possibility presented itself in Washington last week, that television's reductive influence on politics may be just what we need. Television, I find myself musing, may yet save the world; it is taking the gravity out of politics.

During the Enlightenment, Johnson and Voltaire, at odds on many subjects, nevertheless agreed in drawing attention to the irrelevance of politics to the things which concern people most. Yet as long as politicians remained at a distance, moving behind mysterious curtains of secrecy, appearing before the public only to orate from balcony or podium, we regarded them with awe; and men were killed to set aside their vanity and ambition.

Now television, as we all know, brings them into the home. They no longer address vast crowds whose emotions they can whip up. Instead they are compelled to talk to us as individuals. The words must be pitched to the sitting room rather than the forum. This means that they must at least talk like human beings, for television demands amiability. The man who loses his temper on television impresses nobody. He only looks a fool. Passion is out, which gives reason a chance to enter.

Many have laughed over the years at Ronald Reagan's Hollywood background. Yet the Americans' choice of a faded movie actor as president showed an intuitive understanding of how television would operate on politics. The most significant remark made around the summit was the President's reminder that he had co-starred with Errol Flynn. It was

quite rightly picked up by the Soviet press spokesman, who played around with it nicely.

As soon as Reagan, Gorbachev and Errol Flynn are put in the same basket, the danger of politics-for-real, which means war, recedes. We have instead politics-as-show business, and watching Gorbachev leap up to embrace the pianist Van Cliburn at the White House concert was straight MGM.

Now of course all this is in one sense only a performance, but then so much of public life has always been a performance. The point of the performance used to be to emphasize the Great Man's difference; now it is to show that he is just like the rest of us. And this is important because people so often come to believe that they must act out the roles they play.

A journalist who dons uniform and sports from the balcony of the Palazzo Venezia, the failed artist who designs his own military gear, and intoxicates thousands in the grand open setting of Nuremberg, will be driven, by the logic of his own performance, over the brink of war; but leaders who stage the Ron and Mike Chat Show are giving a very different sort of performance which will inevitably form different attitudes and lead to a different conclusion.

When Marshall McLuhan said "The medium is the message" many were revolted by the insinuation of frivolity and banality which the words conveyed. But it is television's equalizing influence, its reduction of everything that happens to the same degree of frivolity and banality, which offers hope. Television reveals the ultimate absurdity of much that we have been compelled by politicians to take seriously, and it does so by making Grand Politics into just another soap opera.

In a soap opera emotions have reality only for their immediate moment; they are inconsequential. So a television president can change from talk of "an evil empire" to holding hands with his leader as smoothly as J.R. Ewing and Sue Ellen can make it up for the umpteenth time.

Of course television often lies, but it abhors rhetoric and its emotional range is limited. Orwell was never more mistaken than in his idea of the effect of the televised hate sessions in 1984. Hatred on television is comic rather than frightening, and repetition dulls every message.

"We laugh at Mussolini when we see him on the old newsreels," Luigi Barzini wrote, and Hitler would come over like Alf Garnett. Television is bland, safe, odorless: everything we need statements to be in a nuclear age.

The next time Mr Gorbachev comes to Britain he will probably appear on *Wogan*; and a good thing too.

however... Philip Howard

And all the rest said Dunno

We betray ourselves every time we open our mouths. Professor Henry Higgins (modelled on Henry Sweet, the phonetician) could work out that you were the daughter of Morningdews and Melrose parents, and had been educated at St Leonard's and Girton, after hearing you ask him to pass the marmalade. Accent is a pillar of the English class system, by which we are weighed in the balances, and found wanting, or filled in our appropriate slots.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority has just commissioned some private research into viewers' perceptions of and attitudes to the accents they hear on television. Several thousand were questioned on three occasions over the past year. People who agree to answer complex secret questionnaires tend not to come from the unruly or feckless classes. And public opinion polls are not science: more like sensations for glibbie newspaper headlines. But the answers are interesting, and confirm the old English obsession with talking proper.

By far the most popular accent for news readers was the Queen's English, Oxbridge accent, alias received pronunciation, which has been called "the best kind of English spoken by the best people", and on the other hand "the dialect of an effete social clique"; 82 per cent of the panel welcomed the news read in such superior, nasal tones, and only 5 per cent disapproved.

The next most popular accent was West Country Mumseset, approved by 27 per cent, and disapproved by 35 per cent. The least popular native accent was not Cockney, Brum, or Belfast, but Glasgow, with 11 per cent finding it acceptable, and 64 per cent ghastly. But the most unpopular of all accents of tormenting the mother tongue was German Ach So, as heard in a million bad PoW dramas, disapproved of by 80 per cent.

Viewers are more liberal about regional and foreign accents in television genres other than the news. They are more prepared to tolerate sing-song Suffolk or Bristolian mooring with an otiose "y" in everything from reporters, silly weather forecasters, and particularly actors in plays and comedies. Some accents are considered intrinsically funny by television viewers, particularly Scouse, Cockney, and Geordie; I suppose because they are stereotypes of working-class urban cultures, which are *ipso facto* funny.

Accents in which viewers perceive least humour are Asian and, I regret to say again, German. What about *l'allo l'allo*?

The researchers then asked the panel whether they noticed bad grammar on television, which is about as rash as asking an Englishman about his health or his holiday snaps. It is a question that



Chris Worms

brings out the Disgusted of Tunbridge Wells in all of us. Surprisingly only 14 per cent complained that they often came across bad grammar from newscasters, and the "lower classes", labelled Ds and Es by the foul marketing people, claimed to find more of it than the As and Bs.

Generally the panel were more prepared to put up with bad grammar from characters in drama and comedy, and lovable populist heroes or villains such as weather-guessed. It is worth asking the barking language reactionaries when was this vintage year of good grammar from which the English language has gone to pot so disastrously. These malcontents are all white, all male, and nearly all middle-aged or over, temperamentally if not temporally. And what they are complaining about is not bad grammar or improper pronunciation, but change.

What conclusions should we draw from the IBA survey? That the English are crashing snobs? We knew that already. That the television news has replaced Oxbridge, the Church of England, and the poor old Queen, as flagship of the English language? That if you go around asking silly questions, what you will get are silly answers? The sensible conclusion is that what is said is more important than the accent it is said in; but I don't suppose we shall ever come to that one.



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THE EAST'S RESPONSE

On his way back to Moscow after the Washington summit, the Soviet leader stopped off in East Berlin to make his now customary gesture of keeping Warsaw Pact leaders briefed on international developments as seen from the Kremlin. These periodic meetings after the big occasion serve two purposes: they perpetuate the impression of *glasnost*, and they help to keep the sometimes wayward Pact members in line.

In the early 1980s there was as little *glasnost* as there was consultation. The policies emanating from Moscow were at times contradictory; their implications for the countries of Eastern Europe apparently disregarded. The stationing of additional nuclear missiles in East Germany and Czechoslovakia in response to the Nato deployments of cruise and Pershing aroused nearly as much dissatisfaction in those countries as the planned deployments in Britain and West Germany did here. It was just more easily concealed.

The signing of the agreement to scrap all intermediate-range nuclear missiles has aroused fewer misgivings among the governments and people of Eastern Europe than in the West. Their single fear, expressed in the communiqué of the East Berlin meeting, is that the West Europeans might try to "compensate" for the loss of the INF weapons by modernizing their defences in other ways.

Within the Warsaw Pact, the INF agreement poses few problems. Only the Romanian leadership has failed to give it full endorsement. People in Poland and Czechoslovakia had opposed the arrival of new Soviet missiles for reasons very similar to those quoted by the anti-nuclear lobby in the West. The removal of the missiles will now be greeted with relief both by the objectors and by the governments — because it removes one focus of popular discontent.

Nor do the East European countries harbour the worry, which has resurfaced in Western Europe, that they might be abandoned by their larger, more powerful "protector". In the first place, the relationship, both strategic and geographical, between the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, is quite different from that between the United States and Western Europe. In the second, a large proportion of the

populations of Eastern Europe would be only too pleased to see a Soviet withdrawal.

This is where their disappointment at the outcome of the Washington summit — or, more accurately, the disappointment of their people — may begin. Before the summit, hopes were raised that the Soviet and American leaders would at a stroke, solve many outstanding international issues by a combination of determination and goodwill. In most cases — the question of US research on strategic defence may be the exception — they failed.

Afghanistan was the most obvious area of hope, and the most obvious failure. There was no progress either on human rights, with the Soviet leader making no concessions and no promises about giving his people the right to travel or emigrate. But the third area where hopes had been raised was in Eastern Europe. To the surprise of many, the idea had been allowed to gain hold, that the Soviet Union might be prepared eventually to withdraw its occupying forces from the countries of Eastern Europe.

In the event the troops stay — to be bargained, perhaps, together with the military hardware, against reductions of US troops and conventional weapons in Western Europe. Such bargaining, which would allow a moral equation to be drawn between US troops in Britain and Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia, for instance, would be ill-advised in the extreme. But now the question of Soviet troops has been raised, however obliquely, it is not impossible that this is what the Soviet Union has in mind.

If the Soviet leadership hopes that the INF treaty may eventually weaken Western Europe by reducing the US commitment to its defence, however, they may be in error. It is possible that the opposite may happen: that Western Europe will become more united and more self-reliant in defence. A stronger Western Europe might, in turn, provide a focus for the aspirations of people in Eastern Europe, as it has not been able to do before. This would provide a particular attraction for Poles, Czechs, Slovaks and Hungarians, whose sense of European identity and whose resentment at their domination from the East is still so strong.

CHAOTIC POLLS IN NIGERIA

Elections in developing countries rarely run entirely smoothly. That which took place in Nigeria this weekend was no exception. The poll for councillors and chairmen of 301 local government districts, intended as President Babangida's first step towards restoring civilian rule appears to have taken place amid a combination of chaos, corruption and occasional violence.

Millions of voters in Lagos and elsewhere, queued all day at polling booths, only to be told that ballot boxes had not arrived, that ballot papers had run out, or that they were not listed as eligible to vote. Some ballot boxes were discovered the night before already filled with slips. Blame for the day's events has yet to be apportioned between, on the one hand, the incompetence of the Electoral Commission set up to oversee the process in making the arrangements and, on the other hand, the determination of the candidates to conspire with ballot officials in rigging the results. Either way, voting will have to be carried out again in a number of areas.

All this is a considerable disappointment for Nigeria's military regime. General Babangida had apparently intended that the elections, from which all previous holders of political office had been excluded, should produce a new political generation. They would be untainted by the corrupt practices and tribal loyalties which characterized Nigerian political life under its last civilian ruler, President Shagari.

As part of this policy, the candidates were all, in theory, non-partisan. The president has banned political parties until the second quarter of 1989. At that point, according to a complicated timetable announced last summer, two new political parties will be announced in time for a return to civilian rule in 1992.

Cynics in Nigeria doubted beforehand whether old political habits could so easily be

eliminated. Many candidates, although nominally apolitical, were thought to be frontmen for old school politicians — a view justified by the weekend's events. Many Nigerians may, as a result, be strengthened in their view that corrupt civilian government is not necessarily a better option than rule by a competent military dictator.

It is into this category that General Babangida falls. An unknown quantity when he came to power in August 1985, he has proved to be a highly capable politician. He inherited an economy left bankrupt by the drop in oil prices and incompetent management, after having enjoyed the biggest boom in Africa during the 1970s. He has succeeded in initiating a partial economic recovery by grasping the nettle of economic reform, along lines acceptable to the multilateral agencies, and this despite considerable internal opposition towards the policies of the International Monetary Fund. The country's external debt has been rescheduled and assurances given to Nigeria's creditors that repayments will be made.

General Babangida has also taken up a stance against corruption in this most corrupt of countries and has dealt with some of the more obvious offenders. And by publishing a detailed timetable for the return to civilian rule, he has helped to calm fears that he intends to rule the country indefinitely.

The debacle of the local district elections, however, may be the first sign that the president has moved out of his political depth. Fortunately, he has ample time to reconsider his strategy without further postponing his intention to relinquish power. Meanwhile it must be hoped that public disillusion with his first attempts at restoring democracy will not undermine his vital efforts at rehabilitating the Nigerian economy, so nearly destroyed by his predecessors.

THE PRESS AND THE PREFACE

To a degree seen rarely before, the newspapers, radio and television were active participants in the Church of England's recent farce turned nightmare over the Crockford's Preface. Events unfolded as much under that pressure as any other, greatly helped on their way by those in the church who were happy and sometimes keen to join in. It is fair to say that no one could reasonably have foreseen that the man for whom the pressure was intended, the then-anonymous Preface writer Dr Gareth Bennett, would collapse so suddenly and tragically under it.

The pressure came in many forms. The church should be warned against blaming the press with hindsight; and perhaps the press should be cautious about generally blaming the church. The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, seems not to be conscious of such sensible caution, however. He has laid particular blame on the offer of £10,000 made by one newspaper to the author of the Preface for an article defending his views.

The letter with the offer, and a covering note from Mr Derek Pattinson, the General Synod's Secretary General, were with Dr Bennett when he died. He seemed to fear imminent exposure, and must have deduced from Mr Pattinson's willingness to forward the letter that the anonymity he felt he was bound by was no longer unconditional. Had he admitted his authorship, he would have been volunteering himself as the target of Dr Habgood's forthright but injudicious censure.

Dr Bennett was more used to the conventions of the Athenaeum than popular news-

papers: had he been more worldly he might well have been alive today, with countless amusing stories of the ways of the press to dine out on round the Oxford high tables. Many churchmen would have welcomed £10,000 to publish their views.

Dr Habgood's high profile in this sad affair will not have enhanced his reputation. His interventions stand in marked contrast to the bearing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, whose quiet and dignified manner throughout will have won him new admirers. Dr Runcie is the older and wiser man. In spite of Dr Habgood's many gifts and his already dominant role in the Church of England, he has not yet proved himself sufficient of an ecclesiastical statesman to guarantee his automatic translation from York to Canterbury when the time comes.

Dr Runcie is 66, Dr Habgood 60. Although archbishops and bishops are expected to retire by 70, they may legitimately stand down earlier and sometimes do. It is beginning to occur to the church that Dr Runcie has it in his hands to influence his succession significantly, even decisively, by timing his retirement soon enough to make Dr Habgood's promotion seem almost inevitable, or late enough to force the church's (and the Prime Minister's) attention to turn to younger men. If Dr Runcie's reflections on the Crockford's affair, and on the argument of the Preface itself, give him a second wind to offer the church more leadership, both more prolonged and more decisive, that would undoubtedly be for the good of the church.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern over disabled job rights

From Mr John Carr
Sir, I refer to your excellent and informative article, "Flight of the disabled?" (Spectrum, December 8). As was pointed out in your article, the law in this area, limited as it is, "has failed miserably" through being "bypassed and ignored by firms".

The ILEA and a number of other local authorities across the country have been using their purchasing power with the private sector to require companies with whom they do business to demonstrate that they comply with the laws of the land in providing equal employment opportunities for people with disabilities, black and ethnic minority people and women. This policy initiative of "contract compliance" is being "disembodied by the Government" in its Local Government Bill currently before Parliament.

Although the Government seem to have accepted that local authorities should be allowed to continue to seek the compliance of firms to the Race Relations Act 1976, they remain intent on preventing local authorities from requiring companies to observe the terms of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944. Even the asking of questions about the arrangements made by the com-

panies for the employment of people with disabilities would become unlawful (Hansard, November 17).

Indeed, in Parliament, a debate on this issue (Hansard, also November 17) the Minister, Michael Howard, seemed to feel that the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 and its operation worked perfectly well as it presently is. This despite the considerable evidence that exists to the contrary, as further witnessed by your article.

It might be expecting too much to hope that the Government would use this opportunity to create positive rights for people with disabilities to receive fair treatment when applying for jobs, but surely the Government should not be stopping local authorities from seeking to ensure that the existing laws are properly observed by private-sector companies with whom they do business.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN CARR (Chairman, Supplies and Transport Services Subcommittee),
Inner London Education Authority,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1,
December 10.

Secrecy and the service of history

From Sir John Walley
Sir, Your leader today (December 8) rightly argues the need for a thoroughgoing re-examination of the basis, in relation to confidentiality, on which those working in our Civil Service are employed. But why did you not mention the ministers and their political assistants and the rules which should apply to them; and also to those, such as lobby correspondents, to whom they may "leak" official information?

Nearly 60 years have passed since I was first faced with your problems as an administrative civil servant in what was then the Ministry of Labour, under a permanent secretary, Sir Horace Wilson, who would later be the second to claim the title "Head" of the Civil Service, which, constitutionally, can only belong to the Crown's Prime Minister.

In those distant, pre-war days ministers might themselves have resented this claim. They were not only bound by the same Official Secrets Act as those working with them in government; they were, at the highest level, still happy to be summoned to Cabinet as a "member of the King's servants". But I do not recollect the present-day Treasury's obsession about "secrecy".

Ministers were free to see the papers of those who had preceded them, even though of a different political party. And, because of this and other possibilities of later exposure in the public domain, I was taught never to minute official files in a way which might then prove embarrassing to us or our ministers.

I suggest that we shall not find

an acceptable way out of the problems which you pose until we get much more openness in government. But, where secrecy has to be claimed, those working in government will not be happy with the rules unless these recognise:

1. That ministers and their "political advisers" are bound by the same rules, in the same way as they are by the Official Secrets Act — or whatever may succeed it.
2. That the basic controls on conduct must be related to the public availability of related government papers, including the "vetted" memoirs of ministers and of others who have played a part in government without claiming to be "civil servants". The idea of lifetime confidentiality only makes sense if the papers relating to the subject are, in fact, still secret.

I do not see how, in a supposedly free country, those who have served in government can usefully be excluded from the public discussion of things that are on the record and which may even, nowadays, include statements about themselves from the pens of ministers.

The service of history, as well as of ministers, has its obligations. Yours truly,
JOHN WALLEY,
46 Rotherwick Road, NW11,
December 8.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 14 1892

[NEWSPAPER COMPETITIONS]

The decision of SIR JOHN BRIDGES, to the effect that the "missing word" competitions which have recently been established in connection with various weekly newspapers are contrary to the law by which lotteries are forbidden, will be a source of congratulation to numbers of people, and, perhaps, will not be altogether unwelcome to the proprietors of some of the papers actually concerned. The originators of the competitions appear to have been almost overwhelmed by their sudden popularity, and by the enormous amount of work which they have entailed upon all concerned in the business of adjudication and distribution. Assuming that "the allotment or distribution of prizes by 'chance or lot' may be taken to furnish a correct definition of the word 'lottery', and of the practices under that name which were prohibited and rendered illegal early in the century, it is to be observed that the competitions now in question were so contrived as partially to conceal the element of chance beneath an apparent demand for skill, and by reason of this contrivance it was probably expected that they would lie outside of the operations of the statutes under which they have been conducted. Meanwhile, our readers are probably acquainted with the methods which have been employed, but these may, nevertheless, be briefly described. A short sentence appeared in a newspaper concerned in the competitions, and the last word of this sentence was omitted. Each competitor was at liberty to make as many guesses at the "missing word" as he might choose, but each guess was to be written down upon a special coupon out from the paper itself, and to be accompanied by a fee of a shilling. The proprietors, therefore, sold as many copies of the paper, and received as many shillings, as the number of guesses submitted to them. The increased sales of the papers served to swell the legitimate profits of the proprietors, but the shillings were pooled, and were ultimately divided equally among those competitors who sent in the word which had been previously selected by the management. It seems to have been expressed or understood that this selected word would be one which would complete the sentence in a proper and intelligible manner; but it was not pretended that it would be the most appropriate which the English language could supply. The idea to be conveyed was usually rendered quite plain by the context; and the so-called competition resolved itself into a selection from among the dozen or twenty words any one of which might be employed. One competition, for example, was based upon a description of Brazil nuts, which terminated thus: "Once they have been taken out of the pod it is an utter impossibility to fit them in again, 'nature has packed them so...'".

There are perhaps a score of words any one of which might be used to fill the gap; and the one selected was "unnaturally", which can hardly be considered more appropriate than many others. It seems to have been customary, with competitors who could afford the required number of shillings, to look out the most likely words in a dictionary of synonyms, and to send them all, content to lose on twenty for the chance of winning on one. The result of this policy was to bring to me a list of the papers, in a single week, 137,892 coupons, together with a sum of £8,894 13s. in shillings. Eight-hundred and seventy-one competitors guessed the right word, and consequently each of them received £7 18s.; but, in the subsequent rapid growth of the system, the prizes became of much greater value. . . .

'Crockford's' preface

From Dr R. W. Martin

Sir, The issue of anonymity in the controversy over the authorship of Crockford's preface is separate from, and secondary to, the central issue which that preface raises.

In future, if the Church of England wants to discard yet another of its traditions, it can ensure that the preface is signed. In the meantime, the anonymous preface airs the fears and anxieties which occupy the minds of many ordinary churchgoers: it speaks elegantly and articulately for a great many of us.

The Church of England has lost its central, unifying formality by putting aside in the parishes the Book of Common Prayer, which contains its articles, creeds and orders of service. It has ignored long-established traditions and it has sought to accommodate itself, in an ill-conceived, populist way, to the mores of contemporary society, to very little effect, since its membership continues to decrease. It has neglected to make

and pronounce firm moral judgments.

The institutions against Dr Runcie's leadership occupy a small part of the preface; the main thrust of the adverse criticism is directed at the Church's leadership in general. The Church of England needs men of gravitas and due reserve, grounded in theology, to lead it, not men of naive social conscience who trim the Church towards a pop-music culture and the ephemeral, kitsch fringe of modern society.

In face of vindictive criticism, the Church Commissioners and editorial board of Crockford's should take heart in that they have allowed the feelings of many unsettled and unhappy members of the Church of England to be known publicly. The preface shows a strong under-current of feeling which is usually kept under restraint but which, in time of crisis, must be published.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN MARTIN,
4 Chalfont Road, Oxford,
December 7.

Arms and the man

From Mr S. E. Scammell

Sir, The law tries to make a distinction between defensive and offensive weapons, but that this is impracticable seems to be demonstrated by the fact that the Home Office, asked to provide a list of weapons classed as defensive only, is unable to do so because an effective weapon must incorporate and can therefore be used either in offence or defence.

The law then makes in effect another distinction, between assault on private property and assault in the public street. We now have the position that if men or women defend themselves in their own house, or indeed on any private property where they have a right to be, having equipped themselves with for instance an iron bar, the court (as for instance his Honour Judge Watling, QC, report, October 24) commends them and urges others to follow their example; but if they so equip themselves in the street they are prosecuted and perhaps impris-

oned — not for doing so but for carrying an offensive weapon in a public place.

In either case, if they accidentally kill their assailant they will be subjected to the inconvenience and expense of a trial for manslaughter on the grounds that they could and should have judged their blow (or their aim) better — an impossibility under such difficult circumstances.

If because he or she is old and feeble and unable to use any other weapon for the purpose, application is made for a licence for a small-calibre, non-automatic firearm it will be refused; yet such a firearm is less likely to cause a death than the iron bar.

Admittedly it appears difficult to frame an amendment to the law that will rectify the position, but surely instructions should be issued that there should be no prosecution in such cases? Yours faithfully,
S. E. SCAMMELL,
Clouds Estate, East Knoyle, Salisbury, Wiltshire,
December 8.

Church in Iran

From the Anglican Bishop of Iran (in exile)

Sir, In your issue of August 20, 1980, you published my letter giving the names of all the Church properties expropriated by the revolutionaries in Iran up to that date. Now, a further name must be added to that list.

On October 7 of this year, over 20 persons, armed with guns, pushed their way into the Nur Asia Institute for the Blind in Isfahan, and declared that it had been "taken over". Appropriate Church authorities in the Middle East have protested, but in the meantime the tiny local church is seeking negotiations in order to ensure the welfare of the blind members of the institute, some of whom had been in the care of the Church over the last 50 years.

Yours sincerely,
H. B. DERGANI-TAFIL,
Anglican Bishop of Iran (in exile),
Church House, 9 The Close,
Winchester, Hampshire,
November 30.

Health screening

From Dr R. J. Coppin and Dr R. E. Lorge

Sir, We would not wish your comments about our practice (report, Saturday, November 28) to pass without qualification.

The White Paper (Cm 249), *Promoting Better Health*, reflects the current enthusiasm for anticipatory care. However, in our experience health screening inevitably reveals hitherto untreated problems. If these are to be dealt with adequately then the full consequences must be understood and resourced.

For example, the regular assessment of the elderly may well create a greater demand for orthopaedic and ophthalmology services. In our district general hospital typical waiting times for initial outpatient appointments in both these specialties exceed six months. Such a policy can only exacerbate this situation. Genuine commitment to screening requires

Getting out of jams

From Wing Commander Richard Dauncey

Sir, Thank you very much for an excellent and detailed analysis (later editions, December 9) of the London traffic jam on Monday night. One point about current traffic management that is not addressed by your correspondents is the effect of multifunction one-way streets and associated lane diversions.

I wonder if any studies have ever been made on the effect of these in restricting drivers' flexibility in choice of routes? On Monday night I was in a taxi at around 6pm and it was noticeable that as one approached the periphery of the jam my driver had very few options about the direction that he could take.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DAUNCEY,
Lermoo, 34 Main Road,
Naphill, High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire,
December 9.

that allowance is made for the extra resources implied by such proposals.

The Government's encouragement of larger general practice lists, whilst reflecting its enthusiasm for competition, may be misplaced. Increasing the proportion of income derived from the capitation fee could become a recipe for encouraging the trappings of good care without the substance. The prevailing view of the profession is that list sizes need to be reduced to enable the GP to extend his range of services into these new areas.

Some of the White Paper's proposals should indeed promote better health but their full financial implications should not be understated. Yours faithfully,
RICHARD COPPIN,
ROBERT LORGE,
The Surgery,
1 Kingsclere Road, Overton,
Basingstoke, Hampshire,
November 29.

In case of fire

From Mr Julian Clauson

Sir, In the paper today (December 5) I see that a Dorset Fire Brigade spokesman, referring to All Hallows School's new fire brigade, said "It's a unique idea". This is quite untrue. Rannoch School in Perthshire has had a fully trained service for at least 28 years, answering calls from not only the school but also the local community.

Yours,
JULIAN CLAUSEN,
Nafferton Lodge,
12 High Road,
Loughton, Essex,
December 5.

Out in the open

From Mr Peter Tarrant-Willis

Sir, Old bureaucracies never die, they simply privatise. British Telecom has invited me to apply today for an international traveller's registration card. I am asked to write my telephone credit card number on an open pre-paid postcard conveniently provided, presumably to test whether I am wide awake to the security implications! Yours faithfully,
PETER TARRANT-WILLIS,
108 Mill Lane,
West Hampstead, NW6,
December 1.

SOCIAL NEWS

Birthdays today

Mr Richard Cassidy, operatic tenor, 64; General Sir Desmond Fitzmaurice, 75; Major-General F.C.C. Graham, former Lord Lieutenant of Strathclyde and Falkirk, 79; the Most Rev J.B.R. Grindrod, Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia, 68; Sir Anthony Kershaw, former MP, 72; Judge Sir Ian Lewis, 62; Mr Berthold Lubbock, architect, 86; Mr Robert Mitchell, former chairman, G.L.C., 74; Mr C.R. Morris, former MP, 61; Mr Alberto Morrocco, painter, 70; Sir John Osborn, former MP, 65; Dame Ruth Raiton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 72; Miss Lee Remick, actress, 52; Mr R.E.J. Roberts, chairman, Simon Engineering, 59; Mr Stan Smith, tennis player, 41; Miss Rosemary Sutcliffe, novelist, 67; Mr Simon Townley, Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, 66; Colonel Sir Cennedy Traber, former Lord Lieutenant of the South and West Glamorgan, 77; Miss Rosalyn Turck, conductor, 73; Professor Alfred Ubbelohde, professor of Thermodynamics, 80.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of Cambridge University, will attend the chancellor's dinner at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, SW1, at 7.15.

Harrow School

Winter Term at Harrow School ended on Saturday. Churchill songs were celebrated on Monday, November 30, in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Kent and Lady Soames. The Cock House Match was won by the Head Master's (Mr J.D.C. Vargas) who beat Druries (Sir Alan Outram). The Torpid final was won by the Head Master's who beat The Park (Mr J.G.K. Ingram). Term begins on Sunday, January 10.

Royal London Yacht Club

The Duke of Edinburgh has been elected Commodore of the Royal London Yacht Club for the ensuing year. The following have also been elected: Vice Commodore, Mr L.C. Hunting; Rear Commodore, Mr C.S.P. Rawson and Major P.B. Snowden.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon Richard Elliott and Miss S. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Lord and Lady Elliott of Morpeth, Lipwood Hall, Northumberland, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr Lionel Robinson and the late Mrs Doris Robinson, of Abbey Lodge, Park Road, London.

Mr A.M.H. Bell and Miss R.J.F. Butler
The engagement is announced between Mark, third son of the late Sir Hugh Bell and the late Lady Bell, of Ingleby Cross, Northallerton, and Rosemary, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs J.R. Butler, of Marbury, Dorset.

Mr S. Brown and Miss E. Walker
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Sydney Brown, of Fernhurst, West Sussex, and Bridget, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ken Walker, of Chalfont, East Sussex.

Mr D.J. Boyd and Miss N.J.P. Board
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs S.A. Boyd, of Bexhill, East Sussex, and Miss N.J.P. Board, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Wembley Park, Middlesex.

Mr B.A. Ellice-Fleet and Miss C.E. Briggs
The engagement is announced between Bruce, youngest son of Mr and Mrs B.A. Ellice-Fleet, of Coth's Harbour, Australia, and Emma, third daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Briggs, of Kew, West Midlands.

Mr J.P. Lawrence and Miss A.P. Gregory
The engagement is announced between James Patrick, younger son of Mr and Mrs A.H. Lawrence, of Rippled, Deal, Kent, and Alison Pamela, younger daughter of Mr A.T. Gregory and the late Mrs P.D. Gregory, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr J.A.D. Long and Miss C.M.C. Mamboury
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of the late Surgeon-Captain Arthur Long, RN, and Mrs Long, of Widgeates, Coverack, Cornwall, and Chantal, daughter of Mr and Mrs Leonard Mamboury, of Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr M.R. Williams and Dr S.J. Dallyn
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs R. Williams, of Bexley, and Sandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.M. Dallyn, of West Wickham.

Memorial services

Mr D. Braum
A memorial service for Mr David Braum was held on Saturday at St James's-Less, Vaughall Bridge Road. The Rev. Ronald Rogers officiated. Mr Philip Watkins read the lesson and Mr Tony Scudland read *The Linkway on the Downs* by Henry Williamson. Mr Geoffrey Hanson gave an address. The Choir of Trinity College of Music sang *Valiant for Truth* by Vaughan Williams. Miss Nelly Mercurio sang *Awake, Maria from Verdi's Otello* and Mr Raymond Herincx sang *Fear No More the Heat of the Sun* by Finzi. Mr John Couling (viola) played *The Vocalise* by Rachmaninov.

Mr G.H. Stainforth
A memorial service for Mr G.H. Stainforth was held in the Chapel of Wellington College on Saturday. The Rev John Robson officiated. Mr D.B. McMurray, Headmaster of St Paul's School, gave an address. The Rev Professor Sir Owen Chadwick, O.M., unveiled a plaque during the service. Dr David Newson, Master of Wellington College, and Mrs Newson, Dr P.M.O. Massey, Second Warden of the Grocers' Company, and Mr D.J. Skipper, Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood, were among those present.

Westminster Cathedral

Mr James O'Donnell, BA(Hons), FRCS, has been appointed Master of the Music in Westminster Cathedral in succession to Mr David Hill. His appointment takes effect after Easter 1988.

Dinners

To Dame Peggy Ashcroft
Dame Peggy Ashcroft was the guest of honour at a dinner held yesterday at the Garrick Club to celebrate her eightieth birthday (December 23). Mr Donald Sinden presided and Sir Anthony Quayle and Sir Peter Hall also spoke.

Institution of Mechanical and General Technicians Engineers
Sir Monty Finniston, President of the Institution of Mechanical and General Technicians Engineers, presided at the annual dinner held on Saturday at the Kensington Palace Theatre.

Clifford Longley

The perniciousness of lying

The Church of England has had so much advice thrown at it over the Crookford affair in the last week, it must by now have no capacity to soak up more. But one loose end remains of interest as to much outside the church as within. It concerns the morality of lying.

Seminars on moral theology like to discuss standard fanciful cases. If a group of survivors of a shipwreck are dying of starvation, may they eat the cabin-boy? If they are dying of thirst, may they throw him out of the lifeboat? Under the heading of truth-telling, seminarians are invited to consider an afternoon stroll (on the Monday golf course, perhaps), in the course of which they are passed by a running man. Soon after he has disappeared into the bushes, they are approached by another, breathlessly wielding an axe, who demands to know which way the first man went.

There being no doubt about the latter's violent intentions, may one lie to him to send him in the opposite direction? Or point wordlessly down the fairway? "I am afraid I cannot help you" is what is known in the best theological circles as a cop-out, for the person may still go the right way: one's duty, surely, is to set him as soon as possible as convincingly as possible.

There is, of course, no infallible answer. The story is told as illustration to prove there may be an occasional exception to the general rule, that one must always tell the truth, nor even venture to deceive. As a matter of justice, an interpersonal obligation, everyone has a right to be told the truth. In certain rare circumstances, however, he may forfeit that right because he wishes to use that truth as a means to doing wrong. Telling him the truth would be assisting in that wrong-doing.

However an alternative view may well have been behind Dr Gary Bennett's decision to deny what he knew to be true, his authorship of the Crookford preface. This would be the view that the

right to be told the truth does not exist generally and automatically, but only when one has positively established it. So one has to have a specific and justifiable claim to the truth in each case.

An inquiring journalist or casual acquaintance may be after the truth for the glory of an exclusive story or the pleasure of gossiping, neither of which create such an entitlement, or so Dr Bennett may have judged. Neither the journalist nor the gossip are necessarily engaged in doing wrong (though they may be), but their good faith would not be viewed as sufficient to support a positive claim to the truth.

It is a widely held point of view. There are lies, damned lies, and denials from spokesmen. In wartime a whole industry of lying is created to deceive the enemy. Lies are not in fact judged to be terribly serious sins, and everyone's life is a white lie in his own eyes.

It is the moral dilemma called utilitarianism, which applied to lying makes the consequence of the lie determine its rightness or wrongness. And consequence is measured in terms of a useful practical effect, usually nothing more than the defence of one's own interests, not by the general palliation of confidence and trust to which every lie contributes, white or not.

The real perniciousness of lying is even deeper than that. It concerns the basic imperative to maintain the link between reality and the mind, for the sake of psychological and spiritual integrity and health. Lies hurt the liar and the lied-to, at the profoundest level of their being, by severing that essential contact between mind and reality. And as a matter of experience, to lie or to be lied to does indeed cause a fundamental sense of uneasiness and disturbance, a mysterious alteration of consciousness.

Those who were convinced Dr Bennett had written that preface, and yet were convinced he would not lie about it, were

looking into an out of focus distorting mirror, not quite sure which way up the world was, unable to make sense of it any more.

The Rev Philip Ursell, principal of Pusey House, Oxford, has defended Dr Bennett, saying "He knew he would be accused of writing it, and said several times 'Of course I shall have to deny it.' I believe he was quite right in this: the fulfilling of a contract to remain anonymous is not the telling of an untruth. It has to be that way, even when you are directly challenged, as all who hear confessions know well."

But Father Ursell is wrong — Dr Bennett indeed told an untruth — and if that is the advice he gave his friend it was bad advice. A contract which required one to lie would be immoral, and therefore void.

A lie in defence of the secrets of the confessional would be wrong too, though no-one may be entitled to such truth. There is a fine but crucial line between similar courses of action in defence of a confidence, based on a valid distinction between active and passive deception. To say nothing, leaving a false conclusion uncorrected, is morally different from saying something as further testimony to that false conclusion. "Economy with the truth" is a valid concept, unless it is itself an untruthful synonym for lying.

The greatest danger is the blurring of all these precise distinctions, the impatient dismissal of such fine lines as "mere" casuistry. It is a response often tendered in the name of blunt and simple honesty, as a protest at what the Oxford English Dictionary still unjustly calls Jesuitry; but the result is not the enhancement of truthfulness: on the contrary it makes it more difficult or impossible. Father Ursell was right to draw attention to such distinctions, and the extreme difficulty in many cases of making them, even if his, and Dr Bennett's, application of them was so sympathetically mistaken.

Nature Notes



In the bare trees, small birds can be seen more clearly. Flocks of long-tailed tits are feeding on insects in the tops of the oaks; though they are mainly black and white, the winter sunshine brings out a clear pink flash on their bellies and pink streaks among the dark feathers on their backs. Sometimes a pure white-headed bird from southern Europe is found in Britain. Coal tits are the smallest, most restless and most noisy of the tits as they hang upside down, these black-capped birds show for a moment the distinctive white patch on the back of their necks.

Hawfinches are found high up in beech trees or hornbeams. They are twig-pink birds with large triangular bills for splitting open nuts. Sometimes they come down to the ground to feed on fallen seed, when they waddle about awkwardly.

The tiny green trumpets of pixie-cup lichen are common on tree-trunks. In the hedges there are still chains of bright red berries on the black berry, and straggling feathery seedheads on old man's beard. On damp road sides the new leaves of cow parsley are coming through among dead leaves and dying nettles.

DJM

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James Bruce, explorer in Africa, Larbert, Scotland, 1730; Philip Emmanuel Bach, Hamburg, 1788; George Washington, 1st president of the US 1789-1797; Charles Darwin, 1809-1882; George VI, reigned 1936-52; York Cottage, Sandringham, 1895.

DEATHS: James V of Scotland, reigned 1513-42; Falkland, 1542; Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, Hamburg, 1788; George Washington, 1st president of the US 1789-1797; Charles Darwin, 1809-1882; George VI, reigned 1936-52; York Cottage, Sandringham, 1895.

Mr B.E.J. Farrington and Miss D.E. Moon
The engagement is announced between Benjamin Ernest James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael James Farrington, of Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, and Daphne Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Harris Ryland Hester, of Daric, Connecticut, United States.

Mr R.A. Holroyd and Miss P.C. Riddell
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. Holroyd, of Bebbington, Wirral, and Penelope Claire, only daughter of Mr and Mrs L.T.D. Riddell, of Old Fishbourne, Chichester, West Sussex.



Mrs Doris Butcher, aged 72, is one of nearly 400 senior citizens who took an O or A-level examination this summer (John Clare writes). Mrs Butcher, who turned in pantomime at 12, and left school at 14, was determined "to get an O-level before I died". Last year, she enrolled for an English language course at the Adult Education Institute near her home in Chislehurst, Essex. "I got a grade A", she cheered. "It seems I'm not as old as I thought I was. I always felt I had missed out. I was keen on education but somehow it never came my way."

Mrs Butcher, who has 13 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren, is now studying geometry and algebra. "I'm hooked on it," she said. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Marriages

Mr R.J. Percy and Miss P.M. Pina
The marriage took place on December 8, at St Mary Abbots, Kensington, between Mr Richard John Percy, eldest son of Mr Gerald Percy, Theford, Norfolk, and of the Marchioness of Bute, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute; and Miss Deborah Patricia Norman, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Guy Norman, Brookham, Surrey. The Rev Ian Robson officiated.

The Hon C.E.B. Portman and Miss P.M. Pina
The marriage took place on Monday, December 7, at Marylebone Register Office between the Hon Christopher Edward Berkeley Portman, elder son of Viscount Portman and Mrs John Maitland, and Miss Patricia Martin Pina, elder daughter of Senator and Senora Bernardino Pina, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Mr E.G. Mason and Miss J.E. Beckley
The marriage took place on Saturday at Holy Trinity Church, Bowerchalke, Salisbury, between Mr Edward Mason, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.E. Beckley, of Bowerchalke, Salisbury, and Miss Patricia Martin Pina, elder daughter of Senator and Senora Bernardino Pina, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Mr J.H. Sakala and Miss A.F. Barry
The marriage took place on December 12, 1987, of Mr Jonathan Hugh Sakala, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Alex Sakala, of Reigate, Surrey, to Miss Alice Frances Barry, daughter of Mr and Mrs Francis Barry, of Toronto, Canada.

Major J.D.M. Crichton and Miss J.Q.P. Curran
Major J.D.M. Crichton, Maitland, and Miss J.Q.P. Curran were married in St Andrew's Cathedral, Aberdeen, on December 11, 1987.

Mr M. Rice and Miss E.M. Bridgewater
The marriage took place on Friday, December 11, at the Church of St Leonard, Minety, Wiltshire, between Mr Matthew Rice, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Rice, of 4 Westwood, London W6, and Miss Emma Mary Bridgewater, daughter of Mr Adrian Bridgewater, of Great Evernden, Cambridge.

Mr R. Stroud and Miss Lucy Wauchope
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Leonard, Minety, Wiltshire, between Mr Robert Stroud, of 4 Westwood, London W6, and Miss Lucy Wauchope, Canon Donald Gray officiated, assisted by the Rev Nicholas Monk.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and attended by Miss Alexandra Wauchope, Miss Louisa Phillips, Miss Amanda Hannam, Lucy and Jessica Hawthorn, Amy, Jasper, Ben Goldman and Georgina Huddart, Mr Peter Houghton was best man.

The reception was held at the House of Commons and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr S.D.R. Barwick and Miss F.E.H. Blackie
The marriage took place on November 21, 1987, at All Saints Church, Harnham, Salisbury, of Mr Simon David Rutland Barwick and Miss Fiona Eileen Hamilton Blackie.

Air Vice-Marshal D.W. Ham and Miss S.J. Holder
The marriage took place on December 12, 1987, between Air Vice-Marshal Derek Ham, of Wiltton, Somerset, and Miss Sylvia Holder, of Harnham, Salisbury.

OBITUARY

DR CLABON ALLEN

Secrets of the Sun

Dr Clabon Allen, Emeritus Professor of Astronomy at University College, London, died in Canberra on December 11. He was 82. His field, in which he won international reputation, was the solar atmosphere, and he achieved important work — the outcome of wartime research — in relationships between Earth and the Sun.

Clabon Walter Allen, born and educated in Perth, Western Australia, began his career as an astronomer in 1926 at the then new Commonwealth Solar Observatory in Canberra — one of a chain of observatories which it was planned to build around the world to enable continuous observation of the sun.

His work in solar spectroscopy, analysing the nature and temperature of the sun by observing its spectrum, soon led to important new conclusions about its atmosphere. Much of his work dealt with what are known as the Fraunhofer lines in the spectrum. Allen proved that the classical calculation of the width of the solar lines was in error by a factor of about ten.

Throughout his life his work was characterized by independence, originality and clarity. He depended little on others for his ideas, but there was to be a generation of students who depended on him for their understanding of astronomy and astrophysics.

During the Second World War, astronomers, with their skill in spectroscopy and optics, were in demand to develop military equipment such as gun sights. Allen's contribution to the war was also work on the prediction of disturbances, caused by solar activities, to radio communication — which led him into other research in solar-terrestrial relations.

A particular achievement concerned the so-called M-Regions. He showed that whereas major geomagnetic storms were associated with sun-spots and flares with a time delay of about a day, recurrent storms were due to the action of sun-spot

magnetic fields on particles with considerably longer flight times.

In technical terms, what he proved was that "the M-Region is not a small area coming into activity by some fortuitous chance like a sun-spot. It is more likely to be an emission coming continuously from practically the whole of the sun's surface and constrained to move in streams by the forces in the sun's atmosphere".

In this work Allen foresaw the nature of the solar wind many years before others did.

At Canberra, he maintained an extraordinary rate of publication — one every seven months, and this on a subject calling for extensive data collection and laborious analysis. During his 20 years as professor in London and director of the London University observatory at Mill Hill, he continued to publish at the same remarkable rate.

But he found time to work for the learned societies and international organizations. He took on the heavy duty of secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society, and was also chairman of the Royal Society's sub-committee on optical tracking.

Allen took part in five solar eclipse expeditions: Japan, in 1936; South Africa, in 1940; Sweden, in 1954; Ceylon, in 1955; and the Canary Islands, in 1959. The expedition to South Africa, the first of the four which he himself led, was of great importance to understanding of the solar corona.

His best-known book was *Astrophysical Quantities*. He insisted on a low royalty from the publishers so that the price to students could be kept down.

When he retired to Australia he was persuaded to look through extensive diaries which he had kept as a young man when exploring the countryside around Canberra. This led to *Hiking from Early Canberra*, privately published in 1977.

His wife, Rose, whom he married in 1937, survives him, with their five sons.

MR AAGE THAARUP

Mr Aage Thaarup, milliner, whose creations adorned the heads of Royalty and the famous, died in London on December 11. He was 82.

He was born in Denmark, and an early ambition was to become a schoolteacher; but his parents could not afford to send him to college. His first job (which he considered himself would be only temporary) was in a ladies' hat department. He remained for three years, learned a lot about hats, and came to like them.

Then, on an impulse, he took a one-way ticket to London, where the going was tougher than he had imagined. He sold hats for a time, at a pinnaux. A young Army officer, back from India, suggested he sell hats out there. On borrowed money, he took another one-way ticket (this time first class), and by the time the vessel docked at Bombay he had already sold hundreds of hats.

He travelled to Delhi, living, as it were, hat to mouth. He arranged with the *dhurries*, the sewing men who sat in the bazaars, to stitch hats which he pinned together. He improvised with materials, using everything from bits of sari silk to re-cut men's hats. In 1932, he returned to London, took three tiny rooms in Berkeley Street, and set up shop as a milliner. Gradually, he became known, and society women began to climb his stairs, among them a Mrs Simpson.

The Duchess of York (the present Queen Mother) became a regular customer — he designed the wide-brimmed hat with veils which she still wears — and Thaarup was not to know that her daughter who used to watch the hat-fitting sessions would one day be Queen, and his most celebrated client.

His creations also included a new cap for the Women's Royal Army Corps; "safe, washable and fireproof" bonnets for factory girls; and mass-produced models for cheap markets.

As milliner to the Queen,

GEN G. A. BOND
Major-General George Alexander Bond, CB, CBE, former Inspector of the Royal Army Service Corps, died on December 11. He was 85.

He first served in the Education Corps. His Second World War service, which included taking part in the Norway campaign, in 1940, earned him an OBE and a mention in despatches for his work in various supply posts.

After the war he became Director of Supplies and Transport, BAOR, and held a similar post in Southern Command. He was appointed Inspector, Royal Army Service Corps, War Office, in 1954, and, later, Colonel Commandant of the RASC (1960-5) and of the Royal Corps of Transport (1965-6).

His wife, Dora Margaret, whom he married in 1929, died just twelve days before him. He is survived by their two sons.



Thaarup designed one of the world's most famous hats — the long-haired bearskin tricorn which the Queen wore for the annual Trooping the Colour ceremony, less cumbersome for a woman than the traditional bearskin.

For the Queen's overseas tours, especially to tropical parts, Thaarup had to consider special problems like fabricating insects or hatpins rusting in the humidity. And everything was carefully numbered: Hartnell dress No.1, for example, went with Thaarup hat No.1 and gloves No.1.

"In making a hat for a 'royal lady', he once explained, 'one has to bear in mind the need for the royal face to be visible. But the hat must be contemporary and reflect what is piquant or attractive in personal taste'."

At the height of his career, however, in 1955, Thaarup was declared bankrupt. He closed his Mayfair salon and opened a small shop in Chelsea. But his clientele remained faithful: he was granted a Royal Warrant; and business was soon once again thriving.

In recent years he was less active. He was not hardened by fame and fortune. He wore a cheerful disposition and a bow-tie always at a ten-to-four angle.

He never married.

Mr Frederic Grunfeldt, American art critic, who recently published a biography of the sculptor Rodin, died in Spain on December 9. He was 58. Later, he had lived in Majorca, where he was a neighbour of Robert Graves.

His books, which covered a range of topics, include *The Art and Times of the Gaudí* (1969); *The Hitler File* (1974), on the social history of Nazism; and *Prophets Without Honour: A Background to Einstein, Freud, Kafka and their World* (1978).

In 1970, he was, for a time, editor of *Queen* magazine, in London.

Enrique Jorin, who died in Havana on December 12, aged 60, was credited as being the creator of the cha-cha-cha, the Latin-American dance that was the rage in the ballrooms of the Western world during the 1950s.

PICK OF THE WEEK AT CHRISTIE'S

Ivory Netsuke of an Ox and Calf
Signed Tomotada, 18th Century, 5.5cm. long

This is a particularly fine example of netsuke (the carved toggles used by the Japanese to hang items from the belt). These exquisite objects have recently enjoyed enormous popularity at auction with Western collectors.

The Ox and Calf is the highlight of a sale of netsuke, swords and fittings to be sold at Christie's, King Street on Tuesday 15 December at 2.30 p.m. The collection of netsuke formed by the late Viscount Beasdale will also be offered for sale, at 10.30 a.m., on the same date.

For further information about this and other sales in the next week, and for a copy of the monthly sales calendar, please telephone 01-839 2746.



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164-166 Bath St., Glasgow



SPECTRUM 1

Can a National Superconductivity Centre redeem Britain's poor research and development record? Robert Matthews reports

A marvel in need of money

"Britain's exclusion from the 21st century is already being mapped. The Government has no policy for space. It hardly has a policy for science. It offers nothing to inspire and stimulate Britons who come of age in the next century."

That was what *The Times* said in a leader as long ago as September 1986. Yet today as 1987 draws to a close these are the facts:

- We spend less of our gross domestic product on research and development than the United States, Japan, or West Germany.
- We spend less on basic science in our universities and on industrial research and development than our competitors



RESEARCH AND PROSPERITY

Part 1: Superconductivity

embrace the whole range of science and technology. It is essential to set an agenda, to select the areas of science that will form our industrial foundation for decades to come.

● In the first of a four-part series we start to draw up this agenda, beginning with the newly discovered "superconducting materials". And we ask: are we getting the R&D mix right?

The scientist gingerly picks up a small, intensely cold lump of charcoal-black stuff and lowers it between two magnets. He lets go... but, miraculously, the magnets appear to have lost their power of attraction. The lump floats. It is not a party trick. Paul Miller, the scientist, is part of a team at GEC that has a £400,000 budget to find ways of exploiting superconductivity.

First seen by an astonished Dutch physicist in 1911, superconductivity is one of science's most spectacular phenomena. A few materials, when chilled to temperatures close to the lowest ever achieved by scientists, suddenly lose all their electrical resistance, becoming "superconductors" of electricity.

Electricity fed into a superconductor will flow, unhindered, virtually forever. Instantly, a host of potential uses opens up: electricity generated and transmitted at a fraction of today's costs, tiny computers with superconducting connections and microchips able to pass signals at incredibly high speeds, pocket-sized motors delivering enormous power.

But until 20 months ago, there

● Throughout this year *The Times* has campaigned to raise the level of debate on research and development. We have called for a new alliance between scientists and politicians; for the Government to transfer money from the R&D defence budget into the civil sector; for Britain to change the way it sees science.

● There are signs that the nation is stirring. Yet, even if spending on R&D was increased significantly, this country could not afford to embrace the whole range of science and technology. It is essential to set an agenda, to select the areas of science that will form our industrial foundation for decades to come.

was one apparently insurmountable obstacle. Once the cost of the sophisticated equipment needed to achieve the extremely low temperatures was included most of the applications became uneconomic.

Then, in April last year, two scientists working at IBM's Zurich laboratories, Dr Georg Bednorz and Professor Alex Mueller, made the breakthrough. They claimed to have found a family of ceramic materials that became superconducting at a temperature much higher than had been thought possible.

Soon, US scientists found a related ceramic material that became superconducting at -196°C, the temperature of liquid nitrogen. Since liquid nitrogen is cheap and easy to handle, many of the uses for superconductivity previously discarded became worth looking at again. A technological revolution was in the offing.

Bednorz and Mueller were rewarded last month with one of the fastest Nobel prizes ever given. But their company has now been joined by dozens more around the world that are racing to find and patent marketable devices based on the ceramic materials. The world market for them is estimated to run into hundreds, perhaps thousands, of millions of pounds a year.

The race started as a sprint in



Floating feat: Paul Miller, a researcher at GEC's Hirst Laboratories in north London, levitating superconducting ceramic between magnets

which Britain has done rather well. In March, a consortium of scientists under Dr Colin Gough at Birmingham University made a discovery that is crucial to understanding how the ceramics become superconductors.

In Cambridge, Dr Jan Everts and his team at the department of material science are investigating ways of turning the materials into useful electronic devices in work that is unequalled anywhere in the world. As well as carrying out its own research, the Rutherford Laboratory, near Oxford, has offered Britain's scientists access to a machine called ISIS, probably the world's best instrument for probing the mysteries of the ceramics.

But the race to exploit the new materials is now turning into a marathon, and British science is showing signs of fatigue born of years of neglect. "We have been trimmed of all the so-called fat from the universities and we now haven't the ability to make a sustained effort," says Everts.

Last October, he headed a Department of Trade and Industry study tour of American laboratories working with the ceramic superconductors. He says: "I don't think we were overwhelmed by

what we found. But although we seem to be not too badly off now, the US effort is hardening into a solid scientific programme. The UK effort is really on 'hold'."

Later this week, the Science and Engineering Research Council, the government body that funds British science, will give new impetus to UK endeavours by announcing the setting up of a National Superconductivity Centre. Taking up half of the roughly £4 million the SERC has allocated to UK research on all aspects of the technology, the centre will have a staff of around 50 and concentrate on getting practical results.

But even before it opens, some are warning that the centre could fall victim to the lack of qualified people, which continually frustrates UK research programmes. They blame poor pay and lack of career prospects, which have forced many key people to go abroad, or out of science.

Dr David Caplin, a physicist at Imperial College, has been an outspoken critic of the concept of a national research centre: "Senior researchers are not sitting around idle waiting for this centre. I think it will be difficult to fill the posts."

Meanwhile, in the US and Japan, universities and industry are stepping up the pace, launching pro-

grammes which threaten to leave Britain far behind.

IBM, having made the original breakthrough, has made several more, including arguably the first working electronic device. And American companies are uniting in what is unashamedly called the US Council on Superconductivity for American Competitiveness. Its aim is to keep businesses abreast with developments and to enable small firms unable to fund their own research to spot opportunities to act entrepreneurially.

Industry in the US is pouring an estimated £50 million into research on the materials over the next year, the Administration will match this. In Britain, there is not so much as a room with a phone acting as an information exchange; the total investment by industry amounts to no more than a few million.

The Japanese are pushing even harder than the Americans and chasing in on what some call the "holy grail": a superconductor that works at room temperature, needing no special cooling equipment. Such an achievement would have even greater commercial potential than any so far.

Japan's world-renowned Ministry of International Trade and

Industry is planning a £100 million national research effort. It also aims to get at least 80 companies to join a superconductivity exploitation consortium. The education ministry is providing a similar amount over seven years.

In Britain, some universities have teamed up with companies such as GEC, Plessey and ICI to speed their work. Dr Karl Gehring, head of GEC's superconductivity research team, is in no doubt about the need to get involved: "We have such a range of electrical products that there are likely to be effects in many areas of our work."

However, not all the research directors of UK companies share Dr Gehring's enthusiasm. They hope to join in once the initial smoke has cleared, when the risk of failure has been all but eliminated, but the patents now being drawn up in the US and Japan could well slam the door in their faces.

No one can guarantee that superconductivity will repay the vast investment now being made. The first marketable products probably will need another five years, and hundreds of millions of pounds of investment.

By then, British scientists may well need more than just their renowned ingenuity to combat the effects of years of being treated as white-coated eccentrics.

KEY TO THE FUTURE

Al the excitement over the new superconducting materials has tended to obscure one important fact: no one knows how they work. Unravelling their mystery is likely to prove crucial to their exploitation. Indeed, some industrialists argue that it could prove premature to invest millions in developing the materials until they are understood. A solution might enable Britain to overhaul the research of the Japanese and Americans.

"Without a good theory we will always be, to some extent, groping in the dark, and while it is not impossible to make progress the risk of pit-falls cannot be ruled out," says Professor William Costling, technical director of the electronics firm Plessey.

It took scientists almost half a century to work out a theory capable of explaining the mysterious superconducting ability of certain metals when chilled with liquid helium, first discovered by the Dutch physicist Heike Kamerlingh Onnes in 1911. The "BCS theory", named after the three American physicists who later won a Nobel prize, is far from simple, although it applies to metals with a relatively simple atomic structure.

Trying to work out a theory for the far more structurally complex "high temperature" ceramic superconductors is proving very hard indeed. "The classical BCS theory, which has served us so well at liquid helium temperatures, fails altogether to explain the high temperature effects," Professor Costling says. "Attempts have been made to patch it, and so far these too have failed, although some still hope that a solution to the theoretical problem may be found in this way. My instinct tells me that it will not."

Dr Mike Gunn of the Rutherford Laboratory near Oxford, one of a handful of British scientists trying to understand the new materials, sees no reason why a British physicist should not find the key. But he believes that Britain may pay the price for all but ending its involvement in superconductivity during the subject's "lean years" in the Sixties and Seventies.

When "high temperature" superconductivity was discovered last year, the US and Japan were able rapidly to redirect their research. British universities, in contrast, found themselves having to poach staff and funds from other projects. They remain handicapped: a number of key researchers have long since deserted Britain for better salaries and facilities.

Faith and profits

The discovery which sparked the superconductivity revolution shows clearly how a company can profit from putting its faith in scientists. The researchers who discovered the so-called "high temperature" superconducting ceramics, Dr Georg Bednorz and Professor Alex Mueller, were working not at a university but in an IBM laboratory in Zurich.

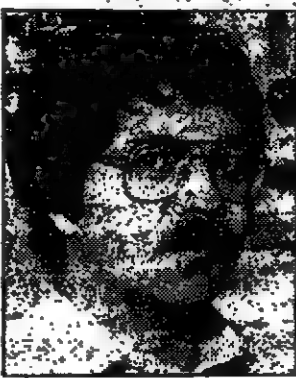
When they started work, only a few metals and alloys were known to become "superconducting", and these all needed complex cooling equipment before they could be coaxed into performing.

IBM was happy to let Bednorz and Mueller follow their noses for three years in their search for materials which would superconduct at higher temperatures. Instead of trying the usual route of tinkering with the known superconducting metal, the two scientists focused on a class of materials that many experts would have dismissed instantly.

The company's indulgence was rewarded when Bednorz and Mueller found a group of ceramic compounds based on so-called "rare earths" that became superconducting at about -240°C, still not industrially useful, but substantially better than other people had achieved in 70 years.

But after they published their work in April last year, scores of research teams around the world swung into action. Soon, scientists at Houston University found a ceramic material that superconducted at the temperature of liquid nitrogen, -196°C, and the revolution was on.

In backing its scientists, IBM has won a lead on all its rivals and will reap the benefits in worldwide patents. Armed with the work of the Zurich laboratory, IBM scientists have gone on to make a number of key breakthroughs using the materials. They have built what is arguably the first working device using a ceramic superconductor, an electronic device which can detect incredibly weak electric or magnetic signals. This could eventually have defence uses, such as the detection of submerged submarines.



Researchers: IBM's Georg Bednorz, left, and Alex Mueller



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It took two years for them to put together even a prototype, and another year to perfect it. Now used by laboratories around the world, the microscope brought Binnig and Rohrer, started in 1978.

Boxing Day with The Times

The Times will be publishing on Boxing Day this year. As well as our regular Saturday contributors there will be a Jumbo Crossword, a Christmas Quiz, complete weekend television, radio and entertainment listings, plus a preview of Boxing Day sport - including full race cards.

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SPECTRUM 2

Rescued in the last act

A centre for dying Aids victims has been saved from the brink of a disaster — with a little assistance from Shakespeare. Alan Franks reports...

When the planning application for an Aids hospice landed in Kensington Town Hall last year, it could hardly have caused greater shock waves if it had been a neutron bomb: the kind that leaves property intact, but destroys people.

Contained in those two words Aids hospice are two of society's most untreatable terrors, death and ignorance.

In no time at all there were residents of W10 (in the end they turned out to be no more than a loud minority) howling that if they weren't all wiped out by a hail of poisoned syringes from the hospice windows, then they would face a slower death through the contaminated water supply. We were firmly in Hitchcock country.

There has been plenty to protest about in and around Notting Hill over the years, with its long hard history of race riots, racism and motorway blight. An Aids hospice, reeking of terminal immorality, was to be the latest indignity.

In fact it is not local opposition that has been threatening to halt work on the London Lighthouse centre, the first of its kind in the world, for that has entirely disappeared. It is a straightforward matter of cash. Last month it seemed certain that work on the building (total cost £3.4 million) just off Ladbroke Grove would have to be aborted. Despite large cash injections from charity and the enthusiasm of the organizers, the money would have dried up by January 2

1988, and with it the hopes of hundreds of Aids sufferers and voluntary helpers.

At this point, enter the actor Ian McKellen. On November 1 he heard of the project's plight. A week later, with the co-operation of impresario David Kernan and a little help from William Shakespeare, he decided to stage his one-man show and to keep the building going with the proceeds, by November 17 the Playhouse Theatre in Charing Cross was booked. All proceeds from his run of 36 performances, starting tonight, will go to the centre. His target is between £100,000 and £250,000.

Last week he donned a yellow plastic hat, and picked his way across the mud between the scaffolding and the Portacabins from which the centre is presently operating. It all seemed about as real as a stage set and yet the May completion target remains firmly on the calendar. By the end of next year some 200 of Britain's 1,160 Aids sufferers will have died within these walls. The walls themselves have grown out of the old shell of the Solomon Wolfson secondary school. Two doors still give on to the pavement, above them the simple, crumbling inscriptions of Boys and Girls. Where once children entered life in a bustle, adults will leave in tranquillity. When it is fully operational the building will have 24 residential beds, where the terminally ill can spend their final three weeks, with round-the-clock care and support, moral as well as medical.

It could hardly be situated in a better place, for of those



Instant fund-raiser: "It would have been tragic," the actor, Ian McKellen, says, "if there had been a hiccup at this stage."

'A society that knows how to die well has gone a long way towards learning how to live well'

1,160, 70 per cent either live in or are being treated in the boroughs of Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, or Hammersmith and Fulham. Where it differs from any existing management of the illness — the Shanti Project in San Francisco is the nearest

parallel — is in its aim of providing comprehensive care and counselling right from HIV (Human Immuno-deficiency Virus) diagnosis to the final stages.

Thus the hospice element of Lighthouse is only a small part

of its work. Already it is providing a counselling and information service, group therapy and health programmes with an emphasis on the holistic side of medicine. By the end of this month there will be 20 voluntary support groups of about half a dozen

members throughout London, each unit caring for one or two Aids sufferers.

This cadre of volunteers is drawn from an extraordinarily broad social range — fashion model to nun — and is responsible for providing the

special care for which neither hospitals nor social services departments are adequately equipped.

Caspar Johnston, Lighthouse's information officer, says: "Many recent difficulties have been caused by ignorance. That and the isolation of the patient. I would say those are about the worst things. I don't just mean physical isolation, although that comes into it. I mean loneliness of the emotional and psychological kind."

Through our Home Support Service we will be able, eventually, to offer 24-hour cover with meals and basic company, as well as to help the friends or relatives of the sufferer cope with the difficulties.

Johnston points out that there have been numerous stories of home helps and even GPs wanting to steer clear of Aids victims. "Some have died in horrible circumstances, either at home or in a hospital acute bed. There are also terribly distressing tales of bodies being bagged up instantly in the hospitals, because of the fear of infected body fluids, and not being seen by the relatives." One of the facilities that the centre intends to provide is a mortuary with a viewing room.

"When I learnt about the financial difficulties here," McKellen says, "I realized that what was needed was a

certain amount immediately. It would have been tragic if there had been a hiccup at this stage of the development."

It would also have been a source of much regret to donors from the public and private sectors; the centre has received grants of £500,000 and more from the Department of Health and Social Security, Health Authority Finance, and the John Paul Getty Junior Charitable Trust.

McKellen's "Instant Shakespeare" rescue operation has brought the project to the centre stage of philanthropic concern, not least through the presence at tonight's performance of Princess Margaret. She has been invited privately, but will be attending in her official capacity. Moreover, the list of London Lighthouse patrons reads like a *Who's Who* of liberal concern, with names such as Lord Snowdon, Peter Tatchell, Esther Rantzen and Dame Peggy Ashcroft, among the 39.

Lighthouse director Christopher Spence is quick to refute any suggestion that it is an awful lot of money to spend on a relatively small number of needy: "We are dealing with a very real and growing menace, but it goes a good way beyond that. I would say that any society that can face up squarely to the problems of dying well has also gone a long way towards learning how to live well."

Turkey talk

How safe is the capercaillie of the Scottish Highlands from extinction?

The "airborne turkey" of the Scottish Highlands can look forward to a blessedly uneventful Christmas, unlike its farmyard kin. But all is not entirely well with the capercaillie, Britain's largest game bird, which bears a striking resemblance to the turkey.

Stoutly-built and weighing more than 12lb, the 3ft long males display dramatically-fanned tails and utter gobbling notes when excited. Any capercaillie — the female is slightly smaller — would feed a family when roasted.

But, though this is the open season, few capercaillies (*Tetrao urogallus*) are shot in Scotland. There will be fewer still if a trend towards conservation continues. Eddie Orbell, director of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's Highland Wildlife Park at Kincaid, Inverness-shire, said: "Concern has been growing among conservation groups because capercaillies are not being found in the same numbers in their forest haunts."

In spite of its great size, the bird is secretive and its numbers are difficult to monitor. Observers agree that it delivers quite a shock when it does break cover. Chris Harbard, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, says: "It stops you in your tracks to see such a huge thing flying over a

loch." If the capercaillie does prove to be in serious trouble, it will not be for the first time. It succumbed to woodland clearance during the 18th century and vanished. Today's population is descended from birds imported from Sweden in the last century.

Attempts to set up new colonies in Ireland and England have failed, giving the species the aura of a curmudgeonly old clansman with conservative tastes. The male's attitude to intruders is appropriately aggressive. Orbell says: "They have been known to attack even cars on forest paths on seeing their reflection in the windscreen."

At least one birdsong recorder has fallen foul of a courting capercaillie, although "song" is hardly the word for the bird calls. Chris Harbard describes one as "exactly like the sound of a champagne cork being pulled". And that will be the limit of its contribution to the season's festivities.

John A. Hill

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Wheelchairs

The Docklands Light Railway, whose escalator was shown on December 7, point out that all their stations are accessible to wheelchair-users.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1438

- ACROSS
- Bring to conclusion (4,2)
 - Big brass brass (4)
 - Forgetfulness (5)
 - Cattle thief (7)
 - Emotionally charged (8)
 - Implement (4)
 - White Alpine (9)
 - Butter flower (4)
 - Formal etiquette (8)
 - Pop band follower (7)
 - Phimolls (5)
 - Asound (4)
 - Cherry brandy (6)

- DOWN
- Yucca fibre (5)
 - Female rabbit (3)
 - Pretender to Henry VII's throne (6,7)
 - Fling (4)
 - Swollen, bulging (7)
 - Narrow lane (5)
 - Sea rescue service (1,1,1,1)
 - Not us (4)
 - Droop (4)
 - Heroic deed (7)
 - Engine sound (4)
 - Social group (5)
 - Comedian (5)
 - Overt (4)
 - Accepted standard (3)

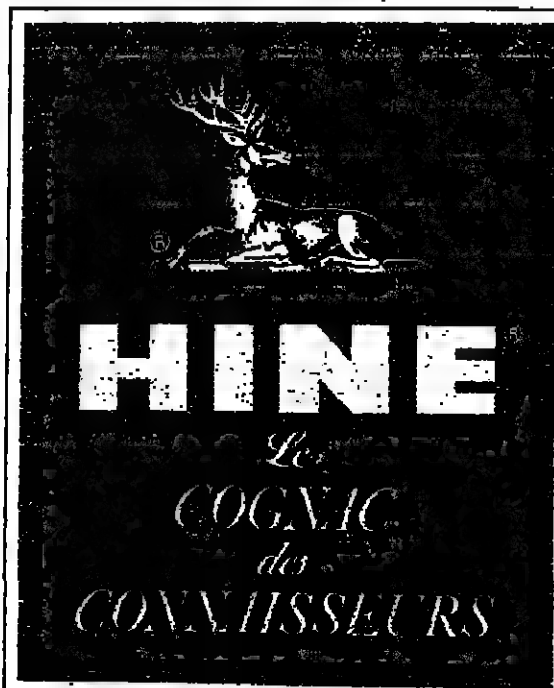


Time was when life's finer things such as Hine Cognac were the preserve of a privileged few.

Today, it is still the true connoisseur that appreciates the mature, mellow flavour of Hine.

The dictionary defines a connoisseur as "one who is an expert judge in matters of taste".

And who are we to argue.



THE ARTS

Unfunny parody

If you thought that the chat show could become no more surreal after *The Dame Edna Experience*, then the sight of Michael Palin stuffing sausages on the American import *Late Night With David Letterman* (Channel 4) provided a useful corrective. This satirically unfunny show usually apes Carson and the American evening chat shows, but as this was a spoof morning edition we had all the

TELEVISION

rigmarole of coffee mugs, weathermen strided in the street and traffic reporters out of contact in distant helicopters. Palin did a nice job of sending-up the send-up by being fatuously po-faced.

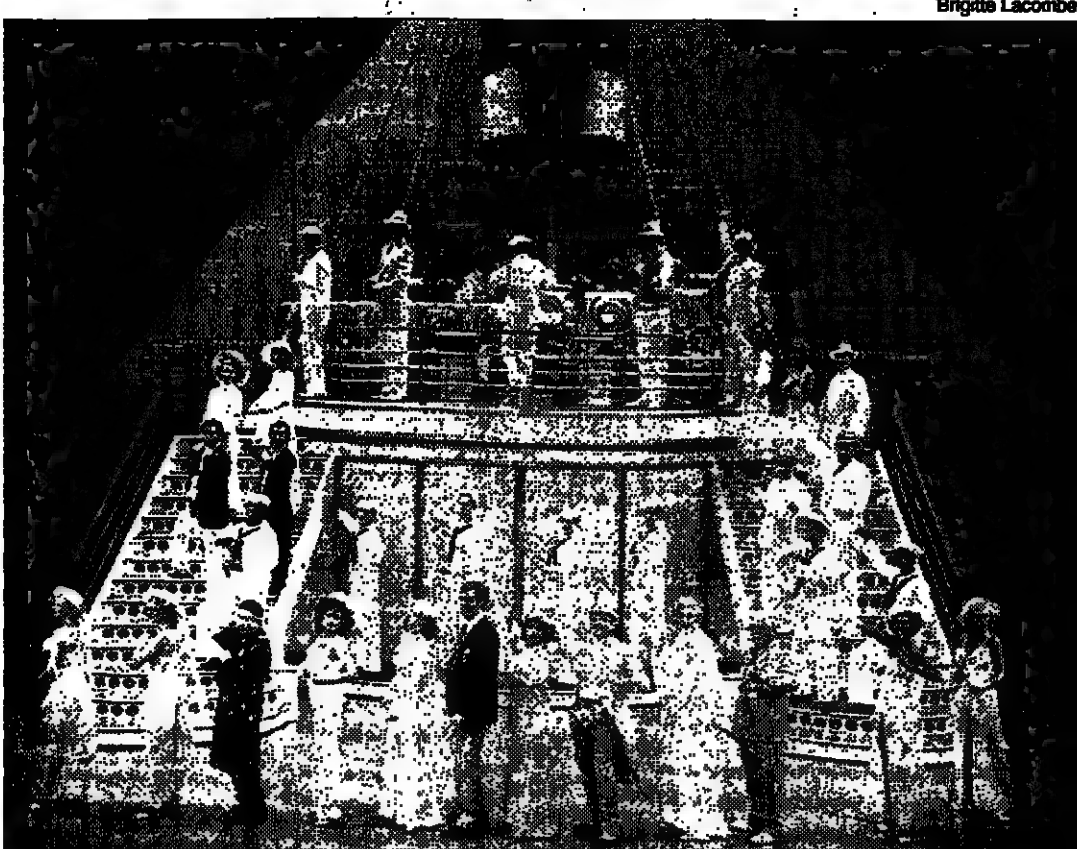
Meanwhile *Cagney and Lacey* (BBC1) improved their increasingly gooey-goodie image by going on the streets as hookers. This episode wasn't a tear-jerker, an anti-racist tract, or a lecture on how wonderful it is to be married to Harv, which, given the nauseatingness of the new series, was a relief.

If you wanted to avoid the obligatory self-congratulations and endless film clips of *Sports Review of the Year* (BBC1) the best alternative was a trip to an oasis in the desert of weekend viewing. *The Natural World* (BBC2) produced a gorgeous portrait of the fertile Okavango River delta which spreads out in the centre of the Kalahari desert near Botswana. The richness and brutality of life there made one long for a bit of life-and-death struggle in suburbia.

Which is exactly what Yorkshiremen get in the saga of Geoffrey Boycott. Andrew Nickolds's sharp and witty play *Our Geoff* (BBC1) set up the whole conflict beautifully by creating the plain shopkeeper Eric (Philip Jackson) and his son (Nicholas Softer) around whom the clash of loyalties could develop. It tried a delicate line between documentary-drama, fiction and pure whimsy very well.

William Holmes

Old king Cole to the rescue



Take a bow on the bridge: the finale of Jerry Zak's current New York revival of Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*

THEATRE

A smashing revival, a foreign musical, and a new American play have invigorated the New York theatre scene. Each arrived for a limited run, was cheered by critics, sold out, and now has extended for what looks like the rest of the season.

The revival of Cole Porter's 1934 musical *Anything Goes* (Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center) is a joy that could last nearly forever. Staged with a timeless sense of fun by Jerry Zak, it is a revival in the best sense. The show has been revitalized with a rewritten book which sharpens character and dialogue while keeping the sweetly silly story of shipboard romance and chicanery involving a Manhattan nightclub owner, English lord, assorted businessmen and some crooks. The frothy fun is buoyed by the lyrics and music of many Cole Porter standards, including some not used in or written for the original production.

Tony Walton's handsome art deco settings in white with silver and gold trim and blue accents create various locales aboard a luxury liner sailing for Europe during the Depression.

Patti LaPone has the nightclub owner's brassiness and adds a sense of sincerity and kindness this actress seldom gets to show. Her characteristic approach to a song — as if she were going to take a bite out of it — is just right for "Blow, Gabriel, Blow", and to others like "I Get a Kick Out of You" she brings a playful sensuousness. Howard McGillin brings to the potentially sappy juvenile role his stellar good looks and sense of mischief, spinning out "Easy to Love" and "All Through the Night" in a caressable lyric baritone. The outstanding young character actor Anthony Heald is endearing as the stuffy English lord.

Downstairs in the smaller Newhouse Theatre at Lincoln Center is an incandescent new musical called *Sarafina!* Conceived, directed and partly composed by Mbongeni Ngema, the black South African whose *Asinamali* played on and Off Broadway last season, *Sarafina!* is set in the black high school which sparked the 1976 Soweto uprising.

The plot is awkward, but serviceable as a framework for 25 exciting songs by Ngema and noted trumpeter Hugh Masekela. The musical idiom is an electrifying mixture of African, rhythm and blues, gospel, and rock rhythms, and of Zulu and

English lyrics. As infectious as sung and danced by some 20 teenagers selected from auditions in South African townships, the music could only fail to rouse the living dead.

The most engrossing play of the fall season Off Broadway, Terrence McNally's *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (Manhattan Theatre Club), is a provocative companion-piece to Lanford Wilson's *Burn This* on Broadway.

Acted with the subtleties of emotion possible when fine performers like Kathy Bates and Kenneth Welsh are willing and able to expose their very nerve-endings, the play is about a one-night stand between a waitress and cook that develops into a potential long-lasting partnership.

Burn This and *Frankie and Johnny*, which feature casual sexual encounters evolving into emotional attachments no one anticipated or knows how to handle, suggest a possible trend in playwriting. Now that AIDS and herpes have frightened sensible people into safe, highly selective sex, monogamy, or celibacy rather than risks, the stage may fill in some people's frustrated fantasies. Whether the fantasies are for casual sex without fear, or sex which reveals a yearned-for soulmate, the theatre can deliver what life denies.

Holly Hill

Truth emerges from artificiality

Countrymania National Theatre

The points Mike Alfreds forfeited for his unsatisfactory production of *The Wandering Jew* he has regained, with bonus attached, for mounting this arrestingly sharp comedy by Goldoni, a parade of Venetian intrigue and folly, operatic in structure and tone right up to the end when the author springs a most un-operatic finale. Four marriages are arranged and all are going to be disastrous. Unlike opera seria nobody dies, yet this can be no opera buffa because nobody will be happy ever after.

It's a lengthy piece, five hours with two brief intervals that divide the three, originally separate, plays.

They follow the fortunes of a dozen citizens desperate to leave town for their annual spree in the countryside, the *Villeggiatura*, where they will continue the expensive pleasures of town but at twice the cost.

The first play shows the problems of leaving town, in this carriage or that, with or (calamity!) without the latest fashionable gown. The overriding concern, as throughout the play, is not to lose face in the eyes of rivals.

The coquettish Giacinta decides upon a whim to betroth herself to the nervous Leonardo, a creature attempting to stave off bankruptcy by manic denial and prone to hysterical fits when he rolls on the ground clinging to his servant's shins. It is a subtly ridiculous character for whom I can think of

no English equivalent and Mark Rylands, playing him on a note of sustained tremble, is uncommonly funny.

Part two takes us into the country, where love and ruin open up on all sides, and part three returns us to town to witness the consequences. During the smooth scene changes of Paul Dalt's blissfully pretty groups of panned arches we are treated to settings by Iona Sekacz of appropriate musical terms — *agitato*, *allegretto* and the like. A noble declaration is no sooner over than the voices are chanting, "*Maestoso. Pomposo*." This device frames the action, distancing its artificiality while guiding our response.

Little of the characters' behaviour accords with their true desires

but Giacinta is the one who articulates the general defence by appealing to the laws of well-bred society. The joke is that none of them has any breeding. Giacinta herself (Sylvester Le Touzel, rendered pop-eyed by the constraints of decorum) rages comically at her maid; the frustration of her rival is released by Stan Thomas in squeals of mortification that rend the air.

Rich in comic detail, Alfreds's direction also makes evident the genuine anguish of the characters. They may sweep across the stage like isosceles triangles on castors but their hearts are flesh and blood — and breaking too; laughably but breaking none the less.

Jeremy Kingston



André Evans (left), Sylvester Le Touzel (right): women of the town

Blurred vision of Futurists

The trouble with television documentaries which try to make art history seem easy to the public at large is that they generally end up simplifying their subjects to the point of caricature. If they then make a vivid effect it is unlikely to be with the vividness of truth; more frequently they end up boring the general public and upsetting anyone who knows anything about the subject in hand.

Admittedly Lutz Becker took on a very problematical area last night in his Channel 4 film *Vita Futurista*. The Futurists seem at a glance like a good lively subject, fighting in the streets for their art, outraging the bourgeoisie, making inflammatory statements and producing painting and music which makes an immediate (if not necessarily altogether agreeable) effect. On the other hand what they actually stood for is not so obvious as it first appears, and then there is the little problem of their (mostly friendly) relationship with the Fascists.

This latter proves in the event to be the great stumbling block. Presumably Mr Becker feels that if the Fascist connec-

tion were admitted it would totally turn off a decent liberal audience, so that it just has to be minimised or denied, and if absolutely unavoidable, spoken of in whispers. But also he seems sincerely to believe that avant-garde artistic activity, being, to use the OK word of the moment, "subversive", must be the prerogative of the Left.

Of course, 20th century history constantly tells us otherwise, being littered with artistic fellow-travellers of the Right, and if they seldom received much sympathy from right-wing politicians once in power, the Soviet avant-garde of the immediately post-Revolutionary era did not do noticeably better from their government.

And in fact, the record of the Italian Fascists is not at all bad in this respect. The film does rather harp on the Futurists' supposed "disillusion" with Mussolini and Fascism in power. It even alleges that the great *Exhibition of the Fascist Revolution* in 1933 turned its back on the Futurists, when in fact Prampolini was one of its



Reconstruction: the robot costume from *Vita Futurista*

principal decorators and the design of the whole show was an amazing monument to Futurist taste.

The most interesting parts

of *Vita Futurista* are those which record the giant *Futurismo e Futurismo* show in Venice two years ago. We could do with more of that, more precise identification of what we are seeing, and fewer Italian experts' mouthing generalities with a heavy voice over.

It is also diverting to listen to (and watch) the Russo Ensemble performing Russolo's music, sound poems by other Futurists, and extracts from Pratella's opera *L'aviatore Dro*. Much more so than watching a man in a reconstruction of Panaghi's most famous robot costume staggering round the scrap-metal yard, allegedly to illustrate Futurists' reaction against Fascism and the romance of the machine — even though the performance in question (not, incidentally, entitled *The Agony of the Machine*, as we are told) took place in 1922, several months before the march on Rome.

John Russell Taylor

Imagination and invention

RADIO

Radio is the natural medium for story-tellers, the very place for flights of the imagination. So Radio 4's current series of five magical plays, *High Fantastical*, should be in its element. Four have gone, and I have heard three of them, starting with Michael Payne's *Lady Leneke* (November 26). Rula Leneke played the title part for all, or even marginally more than, it was worth in this choice piece of Transylvanian hokum, complete with howling wolves and wind, and a sinister, cyclopean servant of impressive perceptive power.

After such panache of writing and of David Johnston's direction, *The Peril* (Wednesday) was a poor and thingy indeed. Dennis Ashford's play set out to be a revision of the Alderley Edge legend in which a Cheshire farmer is compelled to give his milk white shod by a magician, who guards the 140 Sleepers. It has been foretold that these once-and-future heroes will wake at the appointed hour and save Britain from the Last Peril — but only if the said magician can find the 140th member a suitable mount.

Alan Garner used the tale as a prologue to his *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen*, a book which then proceeds to take the reader's imagination by storm without ever having to bring the legend to its conclusion. Ashford set it at the turn of the century — but did not, as far as I heard, actually pin-point its location — and then, no Garner he, plodded steadily downhill towards an ill-advised and feeble resolution, equating the Last Peril with the Battle of Britain. High Fantastical? Never in a century, and not all the efforts of an able cast and skilled director (Ian Coterrell) could breathe life into it.

But, on Thursday, we had taken off again with Stephen Mulrine's *Iron The Foot and*

Penelope. The *Wife*, an enormously complicated Russian tale involving Baba Yaga, the witch, and a talking doll, and a prince in danger, and Ivan, the common hero who rescues and wins her in the end. Classic stuff, here played, agreeably straight, and moved along with suitably acid narration.

It goes without saying that literary exiles from Eastern Europe should be duly grateful to their hosts in the free West for whatever benefits the latter see fit to provide. So in Richard Nelson's *Language Spoken Here* (Radio 3, Thursday, director, Ned Chaillet) Janusz Vukobrat, exiled Polish novelist, ought to feel himself obliged for a kind of friendship offered by Michael and Anne Millick. And he ought to accept Michael's services as translator, no matter how poor they are.

It never occurs to Michael or Anne that Janusz has sacrificed home, family and the genuine friendship of his fellow countrymen for the sake of his writing. When Janusz finds himself not only a new translator, but a famous publisher as well, Michael's outrage knows no bounds, and we leave him trying to ensure that reviews will be few. This was a very well written script indeed, excellently directed and acted, with a performance by Reay Krupinski, as the subtle Janusz, which set up continual ripples of pleasure.

Seen in the context of recent Radio 3 drama, a play like this provides a welcome reminder that things in that department are now a great deal better than they used to be.

David Wade

Messiah meets public demand

CONCERT

Messiah The Sixteen/St John's

This time last year, The Sixteen Choir and Orchestra, taking as much advantage as they could of the *Messiah* season, gave four consecutive performances of Handel's most celebrated oratorio with the express purpose of extracting from them enough material for a "live" recording. That recording has since been issued by Hyperion and widely praised, but such was the success of the concerts in drawing audiences that this year The Sixteen has decided to repeat the season. Once more, the public's appetite for the work is proving insatiable. Friday night's performance was a sellout, and you will have to be quick to get a ticket for the last two on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The audience got what it came for, a reading that was characteristically clean and light, tending towards fleetness but containing ample emotional and spiritual insight.

Sometimes Harry Christophers, the conductor, failed to sustain adequately the dramatic continuity between chorus and aria or vice versa, and he was surely mistaken to allow a pause for tuning just two numbers before the end.

And perhaps because of the absence of the all-hearing microphones to put them on

their mettle, his players were occasionally short of perfection in matters of ensemble, while the cellos and double bass (just one) sometimes produced a muddly line.

But there were plenty of compensatory moments including, for instance, Stephen Keavay's ringing trumpet obbligato in "The Trumpet Shall Sound" or the gentle liltiness of the strings in "He Shall Feed His Flock".

The counter tenor Charles Brett and the soprano Lynda Russell shared the latter aria (Brett is replaced by David James and Russell by Gillian Fisher for the third and fourth performances) giving it with the refined passion which characterized their singing throughout the evening.

Robert Hayward, the bass, from whom Michael George takes over on Tuesday and Wednesday, seemed a little out of place in this company, making a largish sound overlaid with harmonics.

Meanwhile, the 18 voices of the choir sang their music, which essentially forms the rigid bones of the piece, with impressively sharp responses, whether in the delightfully word-painted numbers like "All We Like Sheep" (and more subtly) "His Yoke Is Easy" or in the tingling magnificence of "Glory To God" or "Hallelujah" — for which, hallelujah, you had to be brave to stand up. Never can London have been quite as lavishly blessed with first rate chamber choirs as it has been in this decade, and The Sixteen are among the best of them.

Stephen Pettitt

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MONDAY PAGE

Home truths for home managers

If you can manage a home and children, you can manage a business. If I had a pound for every time I have heard that sentiment trotted out, I would have no need to work again. Only the other day, I read the report of a speech given to a convention of personnel managers by Jean Denton, one of Britain's best-known businesswomen; she is a splendid soul whose domestic style is unashamedly delegatory, and she was extolling the innate qualities that make women such bright candidates for business.

I have also talked to a woman who, as part of her business training scheme, was given two job descriptions: one was for a housewife and mother, the other a company managing director. The point she was meant to grasp was that the personal requirements were identical. And these days you can hardly go to a conference without hearing the statutory bit about how skills developed in the home (by somebody called a home manager) are undervalued by companies.

The first rule of business is surely that you do not do something for nothing. This may be one reason why male-dominated management pay little more than lip-service to the notion that domesticity counts as work experience. If you can manage a home and children you may indeed be able to manage a company, but will you actually be able to find a decent job?

Equal opportunities is an ever-moving frontier. Right now the emphasis is on persuading employers that women who have been out of

the workforce to raise a family are worth hiring for supervisory or managerial careers. Joanna Foster, who will take over as chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission when Lady Platt retires in April, knows all about the juggling act between motherhood and career: she spent several years dipping in and out of jobs while her children were young, finally returning to a good job at the Industrial Society, initially part-time, then full-time.

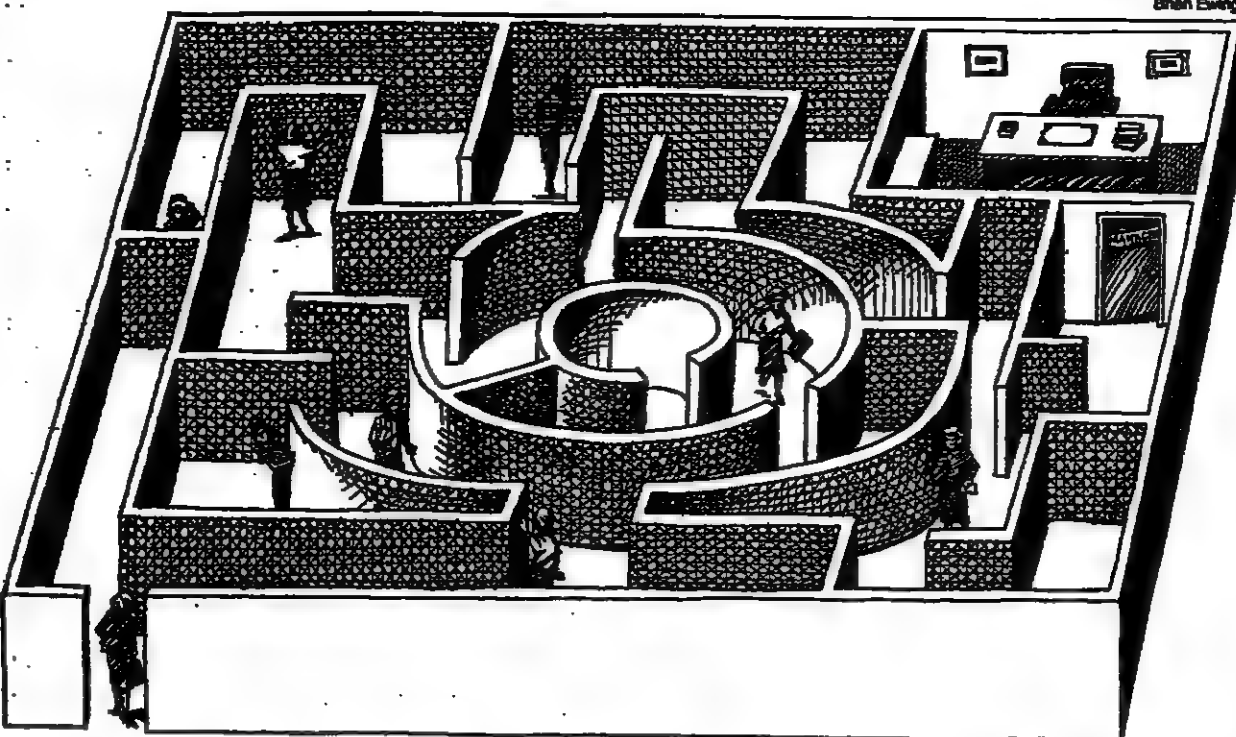
"The evidence is that the amount of time women leave the workforce to have children has dropped to an average of 3½ years," she says. "Then there are single parents, who need to get back in. Companies are just beginning to realize that they can't afford to continue with policies that mean wasting expensive talent."

The main development she points to is the increasing number of career-break schemes which allow women to leave for up to five years to have a family and then return to pick up where they left off. "Five years ago the National Westminster Bank instituted the first career-break scheme. Now there are 20 organizations operating them."

Robin Schneider of Esso, the latest employer to institute a career-break scheme, points to the fact that one in three of this year's intake on the milk round are female, and that it costs £20,000 to train a graduate. The real crunch is that the number of 18-year-olds is falling and industry is in competition with the financial sector for bright recruits.

But what about the 35-plus woman without formal

Women adept at running a home may feel qualified for the business world — but are employers impressed? Maggie Drummond reports



qualifications, who want something more than a hundred part-time job when she goes back to work? How far does the notion that if you can run a home and family you can manage a company really wash with employers?

In practice hardly at all, according to Jean Denton, now a director of public relations firm Burson-Marshall. "The problem with formal structures is that they demand formal qualifica-

tions. Corporate managers in a great company should be looking at 35 to 40-year-old women, who have 20 or 25 years' working life ahead of them, with a view to investing in them the kind of training they give to the young high-fliers just out of university.

"Of course women learn a lot at home. Business is really about common sense and handling people and if you can manage a family you can develop all these skills."

Hilary Taylor of Project Full Employ, one of the growing number of organizations that help women return to work, says the real problem is to overcome her clients' lack of confidence by convincing them that the domestic requirements of adaptability, negotiation and stamina are relevant to business.

Maggie Flynn, a 32-year-old divorcee who is just finishing a course designed to equip its

students for self-employment, says the comparison isn't entirely true: "If you are in business you have to learn to sell your ideas to people, which you never have to do as a housewife."

Flynn opted for starting her own business because there seemed to be no other way to really advance. Of one employer she says: "I felt they didn't want me to learn because they were very happy to keep me on a low salary."

According to businesswoman Leah Hertz, author of *The Business Amazons*, a study of women entrepreneurs, "starting your own business is the only possible route back to fulfilling work — apart from the voluntary sector — for the woman who has never had a career and doesn't want to take a part-time job in Woolworths."

Looking at women's employment over the last few years you see two main developments. There is a big increase in the number of dead-end, low-paid, part-time jobs for women, as companies have sought to reduce labour costs. But more encouragingly, the number of women starting up under the Enterprise Allowance Scheme — the Government's subsidized self-starting programme — has risen from 4,000 in 1984 to nearly 23,000 this year, and more than a quarter of small businesses are now estimated to be started by women.

Elaine Lawrence of the Women's Enterprise Development Agency, which assists women into self-employment, says: "Women learn how to do more than one thing at a time. They are usually the ones who have to balance a budget."

One woman who had just been on a WEDA course and intended to set up her own soft furnishings business told me: "I like the idea of being self-employed because I am used to having my own domain."

But there is a message for big business in the numbers of women setting up on their own? Definitely, says Patricia Hardwick, a runner-up in the Women Mean Business competition organized by *Options* magazine. She started a beauty

product import business three years ago at the age of 47, after her executive husband was made redundant. Her turnover is now £300,000 a year. "You could say that industry missed out on my skills. When I looked for a job all I could get was part-time clerical work. I think I'm worth more to any company now than I was in my early twenties."

For Karen Howard, an occupational psychologist who runs her own management consultancy company, the proposition that if you can run a home you can run a business is not just a glib saying. In her book *Management Skills — Yes They Can Be Developed In The Home*, commissioned by the Equal Opportunities Commission, she contends that there is a 60 per cent overlap between domestic and senior management skills.

But Howard also raises doubts about the flood of women going into self-employment. She is seriously concerned that money and energy are being directed into helping women to start businesses — but very little is being done to change the attitudes of personnel managers. "Persuading women to become self-employed can be an easy option. Advising small business is now one of the real growth areas but the fact is that most small businesses stagger from financial crisis to financial crisis, and the 18 hours may be very low for hours worked. Are we actually in danger of encouraging women into yet another low-paid ghetto in the economy?"

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TALKBACK Nurses as care partners

From Andrew Watts, Montreal Road, Streatham Hill, London SW2

Barbara Amiel's article (Monday Nurses Tend to be Human, November 27) only displayed her misunderstanding of the nature of nursing today. Nursing is already established as an academic science in its own right (as demonstrated by the presence of professional departments of nursing at King's College London, Edinburgh and Manchester, to name but a few), and the simple answer to her discussion on "bedside" treatment is that there is a wealth of nursing research from such departments indicating that the only reliable method is regular turning of immobile patients. Just as in medicine, the scientific basis of nursing has to be established by painstaking effort.

As a graduate nurse (RSC Home) I can vouch for the high standard, both academically and practically, of such degree courses and that the number of hours spent on the wards is well over the minimum levels set by the NCC.

In addition the Government White Paper on primary care is giving nurses only limited responsibility for prescribing such things as dressings, of which the average GP has little knowledge or experience and yet has to "prescribe" for district nurses to use.

I believe that in many areas of life, teamwork is more rewarding and more likely to encourage initiative than dictatorship, and that nurses are seeking partnership in care rather than "power".

From V.M. Bowler, Pilgrims Way, Charing, Kent

It is not just a question of money. Full-time nursing, particularly in responsible, specialized positions, is one's whole being emotionally, physically and mentally. More time for recuperation and refreshment is needed, plus sabbaticals and long-service leave (as given in Australia if legitimately earned). In my opinion ward sisters should have salaries, basic weekly hours and total annual leave equivalent to college lecturers who, after all, are not responsible for life and death decisions.

Older nurses have not been afraid to move with the times, using metric systems and machines long before young folk coming for training were prepared to. Perhaps education too has played its part towards the falling number of new entrants. Having done some part-time teaching in the profession since retirement I have been dismayed by the poor spelling and general use of English in the rewritten work. College courses are fine but it is only when working with people in the ward and clinic situation that confidence is gained to use the knowledge.

So this is freedom?

Why does a newly released Soviet political prisoner insist on going back?



Prison poet Nizamatdin Akhmetov, struggling with freedom

like to be free? What will you write about now? — but he doesn't have the answers. He is an exile here in western Europe, a stranger when away from his homeland and a marked man when in it.

He was not a particularly politically aware youth when he first got into trouble with the authorities for protesting at the arrest of some Crimean Tatars at a local dance. Sentence followed sentence until, after a letter from him reached the Helsinki Conference, the Soviets declared Akhmetov insane and took him from the labour camps to the special psychiatric prisons.

He is a Bashkir, a member of an ethnic minority in the Soviet Union, once Muslim nomads. He is attractive and perhaps that is why the actress-of-a-certain-age who read translations of his poetry at the National Liberal Club last week inclined her cheekbones towards him, taking his hand for the photographer and

pressing her lips to it. "The women," says translator Helen Szamursky, at whose Shepherd's Bush home Akhmetov was staying, "they telephone all the time, from Heidelberg, Dusseldorf, Rotterdam. He is theirs. They fought for him, rescued him and watch over him now."

The "women" are symptomatic of a more serious problem these newly released victims face, and Akhmetov went to Cambridge and discussed it with the dissident Vladimir Bukovsky. "He had the same problem," Akhmetov says. "You come out of the camps and you suffocate on love. Bukovsky says it is always this way. He saved himself by getting a job and studying."

But Akhmetov has no job to get. His only profession has been survival — and his prison poetry. So in a month's time he will voluntarily return to his mother's home in Chelyabinsk on the other side of the

Urals. It seems incomprehensible, and all the more so when he describes the psychiatric prisons, so often misnamed psychiatric "hospitals" in the West.

"The corridors are long with cells on either side. Breakfast is always very thin porridge filled with maggots. You eat all of them, every last one. After this, the orderlies set up the patients in a row, first the pills, then the injections. If you misbehave they put you in the observation wards for what they call a 'particularly active case' where the orderlies are criminals — rapists, murderers — the children of senior party members being punished by these jobs. My doctor told me he knew I was sane. He explained he had a court order which said I was insane and must go on treating me."

He has no confidence in *glasnost*, thinks little of *perestroika* and watches the West's love affair with Gorbachev with incomprehension and fear. His nostrils scent a sellout. When he returns to the Soviet Union he will be forbidden to appear at public gatherings and not allowed to go out after 6pm. "I shall live as before," he says. Does that mean prison again? "I don't want it, but if it happens I will be there. A man is given only one life which must be lived as it is given. I love my motherland because I love my mother, my home, my country, my people."

He wants to come to London again. It's the pubs he likes where the English laugh and talk over beer and wine. The day he arrived he bought over a dozen bottles of wine. He is a creation of the 20th century, a lost heroic soul briefly clutching some heavy metal music for the son of a woman in Moscow. Of such ordinary men with extraordinary convictions, the stuff of history is made.

Barbara Amiel

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Manual owner's manual

PENNY PERRICK

recall my mother's dressing-table, all I can see is a jar of Pond's Vanishing Cream and a Revlon lipstick called Fire and Ice. With these two products, she somehow managed to give a passable imitation of Dorothy Lamour.

You would not believe it to look at me, but I have had to have two decks of fitted cupboards built to house all the engagers it now takes to look like a decent human being, including the three different products you need to wash and condition and crime-rinse your hair. Every magazine I read contains pages of advice

on hair care and a recent one persuaded me to go out and buy a heated hairbrush, powered by a gas cylinder. It gave off a dreadful hissing sound, as if you were passing a cobra across your scalp, so it is now sitting uselessly on the back shelf of one of the fitted cupboards.

There are quite a lot of books around, too, dedicated to making you sit up and notice what until now you have routinely taken for granted. One of these, a study of menstruation called *The Wise Woman*, caused a tatty friend of mine to hurl it across the room, muttering: "What next, *The Joy of Shaving*?" Quite possibly.

Now and then, one does come across a bit of advice that makes life easier rather than twice as difficult. One such, from Leslie Kenton, the health and beauty writer, was the dictum that she always wore

white and then threw every stitch into the washing-machine at the end of the day.

I couldn't follow this exactly to the letter. Firstly, because I am so pale that when I dress in white I look like a semolina pudding and, secondly, because I am quite scared of my washing-machine which has a terrifying Owner's Manual with lots of diagrams and instructions in four languages, including some in quite incomprehensible English.

So I dress entirely in black. I am often mistaken for a Sicilian Mafia widow but we are talking about lack of hassle here, not chic. Everything goes with everything else and, since I switched from red Birds to black ones, the ink stains don't show. If someone would point me in a similar direction as regards simplifying work, cooking and affairs of the heart, my gratitude would know no bounds.

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Carols for Christmas

From the medieval minstrels at the National Theatre to midnight mass at Tewkesbury Abbey, voices will be raised throughout the land for the next fortnight. This selective guide to Christmas carol services and music has been compiled by Anne Whitehouse



This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

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CONCERTS

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★ STEVEN DE GROOTE This excellent pianist plays Schubert's late Sonatas in A minor D958 and Debussy's Images I. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061), 1-2pm, £2.50.

★ TWO THINGS: Gine McCormack (soprano), David Kennedy (piano) and Colin Stace (violin) perform Beethoven's Trio Op 9 No 2 and Mendelssohn's Trio Op 48. St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-636 9800), 1.05-2pm, free.

★ LUDOVIC LUNDH: Conducted by Peter Lee-Cox, the Ludovic Ensemble is heard in Haydn's Symphony No 25, and Joy Paton's music on the baroque violin in Mozart's Concerto for Violin and Piano. St Anne and St Agnes's, Gresham Street, London EC2 (01-373 5566), 1.10-1.50pm, free.

EVENING

★ PREVIN/PANICER: See caption. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-628 3169), 01-628 8800, 7.30-9.30pm, £4-22.00.

★ BRAZILIAN BRASS: Arthur Small offers his interpretations of Debussy's Esquisses, Schumann's Kinderszenen and Brazilian piano works such as Villa-Lobos's Bachianas Brasileiras No 4, Almirante and Fado no Sertão. Wigmore Hall, 35 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-635 2141), 7.30pm, £2.50-25.00.

★ SYRICO: This is the name of a recorder ensemble who have recorded by Philips, Intrada, and others. Includes and concertos by Widmann, a concerto for five recorders by Böhm, and a piece by Bach and Beethoven. Perseus Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-628 3169), 01-628 8800, 7.30pm, £2.50.

★ BARNETT/BAIRD: The Scottish National Orchestra is conducted by Matthias Bamert in Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 6 "Pathétique" — an unusual piece to open with. Royal Albert Hall, 111 Upper Regent Street, London W1 (01-636 9800), 01-636 9801, 7.45-9.45pm, £5.50-210.00.

★ TATE/ECOC: A still more unusual item to start with is Schoenberg's Chamber Symphony No 2, followed by the music of James Taylor. This rarity is followed by the frequently performed Bruch Violin Concerto No 1, with popular Nigel Kennedy soloist. Gresham Street, London EC2 (01-373 5566), 01-373 5567, 7.45-9.45pm, £5.50-210.00.

ROCK

★ ROCK: Standard-issue Australian rockers fronted by the Gold/Jagger composite Martin Mulvey. Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (01-748 4081) 7.30pm, £5-27.

★ MARC ALMOND: Backed by a piano trio he performs material from a forthcoming album as well as performing songs from his excellent Mother and Her Five Daughters. Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-434 0408), 7.30pm, £7.

★ BRYAN ADAMS: The Canadian arena-rock star was on his way to his recent Wembley shows. Brighton Centre, Kings Road (0273 202691) 7.30pm, £7.50-25.50.

★ SUZANNE VEGAR: The New York singer is becoming ever more successful by the explosion of large-scale soft-rock success. NEC, Birmingham (021 700 4733) doors open 6.30pm, £7.50-25.50.

★ STIFF LITTLE FISH: This band has recovered the punk quartet whose *Interference* album of 1979 set the bedding Rough Trade label on an even financial level. Weyl Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne (0191 232 3109) 7.30pm, £5-25.

JAZZ

★ JULIAN ANGELES/SMITH: PULCELLO: A hybrid saxophonist, with this year's Pat Smythe award for outstanding young players. He and pianist Nicholas Collins are the strongest young quartet on the circuit. Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081), 8pm, £5.

★ EDUARDO MIERA/ANTONIO FORCONE: The Latin guitar duo have won a faithful following which should be consolidated by their new vinyl LP, *Concertos*. Belle Vue, London SW13 (01-878 5241), 8.30pm, £3.50.

★ ROADSIDE PICTURES: Fusion tinged band led by the young saxophonist Dave 1718. Prince of Wales, 118 Lower Road, London SE16 (01-257 5181), 8pm, free.

OPERA

★ L'ELISIR D'AMORE: Revival of John Copley's effective production of the Royal Opera, with Yvonne Kenny as the Adina and Doreen Galyon as the Nemorino. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1068), 7.30-10.15pm, £2-24.00.

DANCE

★ GIBELLE: From Chadwick takes the title part tonight in Peter Wright's production for the Royal Ballet. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1068) 7.30-9.45pm, £1-23.00.

GALLERIES

MOVING PARTS: An exhibition of mobile, up-size sculptures and cut-outs. ArtSpace, 1 Pierpont Place, Bath (0225 81850), Tue-Sun 10.30-7pm, free, until Jan 17.

DICK FRENCH: Richly evocative, large and vivid allegorical paintings which take a cynical look at modern life. The Stourhead House Gallery, 65 Chatterhouse Street, London EC1 (01-490 0847), Mon-Sat 11-6pm, free, until Dec 20.

CONVERSATIONS: Pairs of paintings, selected from the Arts Council collection, which suggest parallel between artists as different as, say, Caravaggio and Van Gogh. City Museum and Art Gallery, Foregate Street, Worcester (0905 25871), Mon-Fri 9.30-5pm, Sat 10-5pm, free, until Jan 16.

AN ENLIGHTENED SCOPES: Many 16th and 18th century examples. British Library, British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-636 1544), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, free, until March 6.

WINDMILL: 1000 years of windmills. Windmill Museum, 1000 Windmill Lane, London W11 (01-628 3169), 10-12.30pm, £2-12.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS: *Portrait of a Man* by Sir Isaac Newton. 10, Great Marlborough Street, London W1 (01-636 1544), 10-6pm, free, until Dec 20.

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS: A new production of the play. Windmill Theatre, 1000 Windmill Lane, London W11 (01-628 3169), 10-12.30pm, £2-12.30.

CHARLTON HESTON: A new production of the play. Windmill Theatre, 1000 Windmill Lane, London W11 (01-628 3169), 10-12.30pm, £2-12.30.

A MAN OF THE WORLD: A new production of the play. Windmill Theatre, 1000 Windmill Lane, London W11 (01-628 3169), 10-12.30pm, £2-12.30.

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THE SOUTH BANK PICTURE SHOW: Paintings, drawings, watercolours and prints about London by professional and amateur artists in open competition. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-628 3169), daily 10am-11pm, free, until Jan 24.

WALKS

★ BAD MONKS AND NAUGHTY: Film about St Paul's 1504, 11am, £3.

★ MEDICAL CITY BYWAYS: meet St Paul's tube, 11am, £3.

★ JENNIFER EAST: meet at Aldgate tube, 11am, £3.

★ THE LONDON OF JACK THE RIPPER: meet Monument tube, 2pm, £2.50.

OTHER EVENTS

LONDON BOOK FAIR: Antiquarian and second-hand books, maps and prints for sale. Hotel Russell, Russell Square, London WC1 (01-637 6470), 10.30am-7pm, free.

★ LIVES IN THE CITY: Festive performances in Edinburgh begin today with community groups from across the city of Edinburgh. The Festival of the Muses, Edinburgh (0131 551 1255 ext 217), 6pm, free.

WEST LONDON CRAFTS: Pre-Christmas exhibition of craftwork — most for sale — includes jewellery, ceramics, tableware, cutlery and tapestries. Central Library, 2nd Floor, St. James's, London SW1 (01-235 1111), 9.30am-5pm, free, until Dec 22.

BOOKINGS

MONIE: Dance theatre company makes London debut as part of 10th London International Music Festival to music from Purcell to Beethoven, 20-22 Dec. Personal and choral booking from today. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8810).

MOVING INTO AQUARIUS: Four performances of work by Thea Musgrave and Richard Rodney Bennett, composed in honour of Michael Tippett's 80th birthday, with quotations from Tippett's music. Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow, Jan 15-22.

★ WILDLIFE FILMS: *Primates of the World*, *Mad Matters* and *A Little Old Story*, Feb 13.

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LONDON

★ TRAFALGAR SQUARE, SW1: The 100th Anniversary of the 1801 Battle of Trafalgar. Carols every evening, 4-10pm, collections for charity.

SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS: Queen Elizabeth Hall: Dec 17, 7.45pm: Carols for choir and audience. London Concert Choir. Royal Festival Hall: Dec 18, 7.30pm: Family Christmas Carol Concert. Queen Elizabeth Hall: Dec 20, 3.15pm: City of London Choir Dec 21, 5.30pm: Medieval Christmas Extravaganza. Includes Yuletide carols with New London Consort. Purcell Room: Dec 22, 7.30pm: Christmas music with Orpington Junior Singers.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, SW7: Dec 16, 7.30pm: Christmas carols with the Hardway Boys choir. Dec 17, 7.45pm: Carols old and new, with King's College Cambridge choir, £3-21. Dec 18, 5pm and 8.15pm: Carols for audience and choir with James Galway and BBC Concert Orchestra. Carol concert also Dec 19, 3.30pm. Dec 20, 7.45pm. Dec 21, 7.15pm. Dec 22, 7.15pm. Dec 23, 7.15pm. Dec 24, 7.15pm. Dec 25, 7.15pm.

THE BARBICAN, EC2: Dec 16, 7.30pm: Christmas carols with the Hardway Boys choir. Dec 17, 7.45pm: Carols old and new, with King's College Cambridge choir, £3-21. Dec 18, 5pm and 8.15pm: Carols for audience and choir with James Galway and BBC Concert Orchestra. Carol concert also Dec 19, 3.30pm. Dec 20, 7.45pm. Dec 21, 7.15pm. Dec 22, 7.15pm. Dec 23, 7.15pm. Dec 24, 7.15pm. Dec 25, 7.15pm.

ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, WC2: Dec 18, 7.30pm: Family carols with London Orpheus Choir. Dec 20, 3pm: Salvation Army/Mancos Carol service. 4.30pm: Chinese carol service. Dec 23, 8.30pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 6.30pm: Carols and blessing of crib. 11.30pm: Midnight mass (entrance by ticket only). Dec 25, 6.30pm: Carols and blessing of crib. 11.30pm: Midnight mass.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY, SW1: Dec 24, 12pm: Children's crib and gift service. 3pm: Nine lessons and carols. 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 10.30am: Sung Eucharist. 3pm: Festal evensong. Dec 26, 3pm: Festal evensong with carols. Dec 27, 3pm: Festal evensong. Dec 28, 3pm: Procession with carols.

CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, SW1: Dec 18, 7pm: Carol service presented by Andrew Orford.

Foresters, £2.50. Dec 20, 6.30pm: Christmas service. Dec 21, 11.30pm: Candlelight communion. Dec 25, 10.30pm: Family service.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, EC4: Dec 19, 5pm: Carol service. Dec 24, 4pm: Carols service and blessing of crib. 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 10.30pm: Choral mass. 11.30pm: Choral communion. 3.15pm: Festal evensong. Dec 26 and Dec 28, 5pm: Carols at crib. Dec 31, 11.30pm: Watchnight service.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL, EC8: Dec 18, 12.45pm: Lunchtime carols for choir and audience. Dec 20, 3pm: Carol service. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight Eucharist. Dec 25, 9am and 11am: Eucharist.

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE, SW1: Dec 17, 7.30pm: Christmas music for choir and audience. Dec 20, 3pm: Carol service. Dec 21, 7.30pm and Dec 22, 3.30pm: Christmas music and carols for choir and audience. Tickets from £3.

WIMBORNE ABBEY, W1: Dec 17, 7.30pm: Medieval Christmas music with Martin Best Ensemble, £3.50-25.50.

NATIONAL THEATRE, SE1: Dec 15, 5pm: Carols by London Oratory School choir. Lyttelton Road, Dec 17, 5pm: "Noises of Minstrel" festive music from Middle Ages to present.

GUARDS CHAPEL, SW1: Dec 20 and 27, 11am: Choral mass and communion. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight communion.

ST GEORGE'S, MANOR SQUARE, W1: Dec 20, 6pm: Carol service. Dec 25, 11am: Sung Eucharist. Dec 26, 11am: Carol service. Dec 27 and Jan 2, 11am: Sung Eucharist.

BROMPTON ORATORY, SW7: Dec 20, 4.30pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Mass.

ALL SOULS, LANGHAM PLACE, W1: Dec 20, 4.30pm: Carol service. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Communion. Dec 25, 11am: Christmas service. Dec 31, 11.15pm: Watchnight service.

ST JAMES'S, PICCADILLY, W1: Dec 20, 6.30pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 22, 7.30pm: Carol service. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Christmas communion using high altar. Dec 26, 11am: Sung Eucharist.

ST CLEMENT DANES, WC2: Dec 20, 11am: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Choral Eucharist.

TELEVISION TOP 10

Most watched top 10 programmes in the week ending December 12:

1. *EastEnders* (Thames) 15.8m
2. *News at Ten* (BBC) 14.2m
3. *21 Days* (ITV) 13.8m
4. *Question Time* (BBC) 13.5m
5. *News and Weather* (BBC) 13.5m
6. *Only Fools and Horses* 13.5m
7. *The Night* (BBC) 13.5m
8. *100% Girl* (ITV) 13.5m
9. *Foot and Mouth* (BBC) 13.5m
10. *Just Give Me a Break* 13.5m

11. *Coronation Street* (BBC) 12.8m
12. *Coronation Street* (BBC) 12.8m
13. *The Sun* (ITV) 12.8m
14. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
15. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
16. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
17. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
18. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
19. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m
20. *Steed* (BBC) 12.8m

OUT OF TOWN

BANGOR CATHEDRAL: Dec 25, 4.50pm: Communion in Welsh followed by choral mass, with hymns by William Mathias.

RELFEST, ST ANNE'S CATHEDRAL: Dec 25, 11am: Christmas communion using high altar. Dec 26, 11am: Sung Eucharist.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: Dec 15 and 16, 7.30pm: Carol concert. Dec 24, 3.30pm: Lessons and carols.

BIRMINGHAM, ST PHILIP'S CATHEDRAL: Dec 19, 7.30pm: Christmas concert with carols for choir and audience, £2-25.

BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL: Dec 18, 7.30pm: Christmas carols with carols for choir and audience. London Concert Orchestra, £5-25.00. Dec 18, 8.30pm: Carols for choir and audience. City of Birmingham Choir, £2-24.

REVERLY MINSTER, HUMBERSIDE: Dec 24, 6.30pm: Nine lessons and carols.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: Dec 20, 6.30pm and Dec 27, 4pm: Carol concert.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: Dec 15 and 16, 7.30pm: Carol concert. Dec 24, 3.30pm: Lessons and carols.

CAMBRIDGE, KING'S COLLEGE: Dec 24, 3pm: Carol service. Queen's Chapel, Cambridge. Dec 25, 11am: Sung Eucharist.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: Dec 24, 11am: Carol service. Dec 25, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 26, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 27, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 28, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 29, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 30, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 31, 11.30pm: Christmas carol service.

ALL WALLEYS BY THE TOWER, EC4: Dec 15, 6pm: Choral mass. Dec 20, 4pm: Nine lessons and carols by candlelight, and blessing of crib. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Family communion.

ST ANDREW BY THE WARDROBE, EC4: Dec 15, 6pm: Choral mass. Dec 20, 4pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Family communion.

ST BRIDGES, EC4: Dec 15, 6pm: Choral mass. Dec 20, 4pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Family communion.

ST BOTOLPH'S, EC2: Dec 15, 6pm: Choral mass. Dec 20, 4pm: Nine lessons and carols. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Family communion.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: Dec 19, 7.30pm: Christmas carol service. Dec 24, 11.30pm: Midnight mass. Dec 25, 11am: Family communion.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: Dec 22, 7pm and Dec 24, 3pm: Festival of nine lessons and carols.

EDMUNDS, ST MARTIN'S CATHEDRAL: Dec 20, 10.30am: Choral communion to Michael Berkeley's *Herod's Feast*.

EDMUNDS, ELIN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH: Dec 25, 11am: Family worship with hymns and carols. Children invited to bring their Christmas presents.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: Dec 24, 3pm: Carol service and procession. Entry by ticket only.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: Dec 17, 7pm: Youth Candlelight service. Dec 24, 3.30pm: Family service and blessing of crib. Dec 24, 6pm, Dec 26, 3pm and Jan 10, 3pm: Carol service.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Davalle
and Jane Rackham

BEC1

- 6.00 **Celest AM**.
6.35 Leon Errol in Lord Epping Returns (b/w).
6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. Includes national and international news at 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, and 8.15; and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
8.40 **Open Air**. Eamonn Holmes invites you to air your views on the weekend's television. Ring 061 614 0424 to participate.
8.55 **Regional News and weather**.
9.00 **News and weather**, followed by **Neighbours** (r).
9.20 **Kare**. Robert Kirey-Gill chairs a studio discussion on sanctuary from the Church of the Ascension in Manchester where a Sri Lankan, Vinod Malla, is seeking refuge from deportation.
10.00 **News and weather** followed by **The Flintstones** (r).
10.25 **Children's BBC**. Andy Crane with programme news and today's greetings, followed by **Play School** (r) and **Wish the Wisp** (r).
10.55 **Five to Eleven** with Jan Harvey.
11.00 **News and weather**, followed by **Open Air**.
12.00 **News and weather**, followed by **Daytime Live**. 12.55 **Regional News and weather**.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. Weather.
1.30 **Neighbours**.
1.50 **Going for Gold**. European quiz show with Henry Kelly.
2.15 **Invisible**.
3.05 **Hudson and Malls**. The ordinary couple from New Zealand prepare a Christmas dinner with a difference and talk to Steve Martin, an ice-carver competing in the next winter Olympics.
3.30 **Weekend Consumer News** and advice with Lynn Faulds Wood and John Stapleton (r).
3.50 **Laurel and Hardy** (r).

BBC2

- 6.00 **Celest AM**.
6.35 **Open University**.
6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. Includes national and international news at 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, and 8.15; and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
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ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am**. Cartoons and family entertainment with news on the hour and half hour.
6.00 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond.
9.00 **After Nine** with Jayne Irving.
9.25 **Thames News** Headlines.
9.30 **Runway**. Travel and tactics quiz with Chris Sorle.
10.00 **Santa Barbara**. Californian soap. 10.25 **ITN News Headlines**.
10.30 **The Time ... The Place**. Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject.
11.10 **Let's Pretend**.
11.25 **Thames News Headlines**.
11.30 **Are Mothers Really Necessary?** Report on the practice of allowing mothers to remain with their child during a stay in hospital and an examination of the attempts to make life tolerable for families whose children have long-term illnesses such as cancer.
12.00 **The Sunlight**. Australian family drama serial set in the Forties.
12.30 **ITN News** with Julia Somerville.
12.50 **Thames News**.
1.00 **First Night of Christmas** (1977). Teenager about an eight-year-old boy who decides to escape from the hospital in which he has spent his life because he has no resistance to germs. With Christopher George and Guy Hamilton. Directed by Filippo Ottone.
3.00 **Currents**. Monthly review of religious current affairs presented by Hope Seely and Nick Stuart.
3.25 **The News**.
3.30 **The Young Doctors**. Drama serial set in the Albert Memorial Hospital.
4.00 **ITV's ITV** presented by Gary Tarzetta and Debbie Shore, starting with **Twice on the Turn** (r). 4.15 **Dodger**. Bonzo and the Rat. One-off from a drama series set in a child's home (r).
5.15 **Stockmarket**. Ten-minute general knowledge quiz show presented by Bob Holness.

CHANNEL 4

- 12.00 **Business Daily**. Financial news and analysis presented by Susan Simons.
12.30 **Just for Fun**.
1.00 **Sesame Street**. Learning and fun for pre-school children.
3.00 **Film: Four Crows** (1970, b/w). Comedy compilation featuring Laurel and Hardy, Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin and including clips from *Seven Chances*, *Double Whoopee* and *Louise*.
3.45 **Man and the World**. Italian cartoon series about science and the environment reports on energy.
4.00 **Mavis on 4**. Visits Coventry and meets Harold Williams, the first Provost of Coventry Cathedral, and Colin Semper, the present Provost.
4.30 **Countdown**. Today's challenges in the words and numbers game is John Charler.
6.00 **The News** (b/w). Vintage American comedy series about a monstrous family.
6.30 **The Beverly Hills** (b/w). The comedy series about the jet-set. Comedies family.

The blackboard jungle

TELEVISION CHOICE

A boy burns down part of a Manchester school and teachers and parents call for his expulsion. Since the local education authority does not believe in expelling children, the request is refused. A few months later, the same boy kills another pupil to death in a playground fight. The current state of behaviour and discipline in schools is explored in **World in Action** (ITV, 8.30pm). The programme reveals shocking examples of violence and, in some schools, the almost total collapse of the teachers' authority. In one Huddersfield school, they have been threatened with knives, attacked, and become the subject of daily verbal abuse. Teachers are bitter about the dangers they have to face and complain that local education authorities are too soft on unruly pupils. But the programme also visits a comprehensive in a tough area of inner city Birmingham which has found the secret of keeping kids in order.

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the hour from 6.30am until 8.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight.
8.30am **Adrian J** 7.30 **Mike Smith's Breakfast Show** 8.30 **Susan Somers** 12.30pm **News** 12.45 **Gary Davies** 1.00pm **Steve Wright** 1.30pm **News** 1.45pm **Bruno Brookes** 2.30pm **Janice Long** 3.00pm **John Peel** 3.30pm **Adrian J** 4.00pm **Adrian J** 4.30pm **Adrian J** 5.00pm **Adrian J** 5.30pm **Adrian J** 6.00pm **Adrian J** 6.30pm **Adrian J** 7.00pm **Adrian J** 7.30pm **Adrian J** 8.00pm **Adrian J** 8.30pm **Adrian J** 9.00pm **Adrian J** 9.30pm **Adrian J** 10.00pm **Adrian J** 10.30pm **Adrian J** 11.00pm **Adrian J** 11.30pm **Adrian J** 12.00am **Adrian J** 12.30am **Adrian J** 1.00am **Adrian J** 1.30am **Adrian J** 2.00am **Adrian J** 2.30am **Adrian J** 3.00am **Adrian J** 3.30am **Adrian J** 4.00am **Adrian J** 4.30am **Adrian J** 5.00am **Adrian J** 5.30am **Adrian J** 6.00am **Adrian J** 6.30am **Adrian J** 7.00am **Adrian J** 7.30am **Adrian J** 8.00am **Adrian J** 8.30am **Adrian J** 9.00am **Adrian J** 9.30am **Adrian J** 10.00am **Adrian J** 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ANALYSIS

Ladbroke lifts its stake as a world player

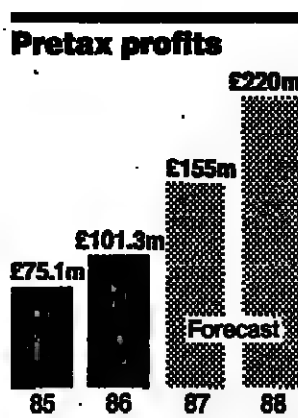
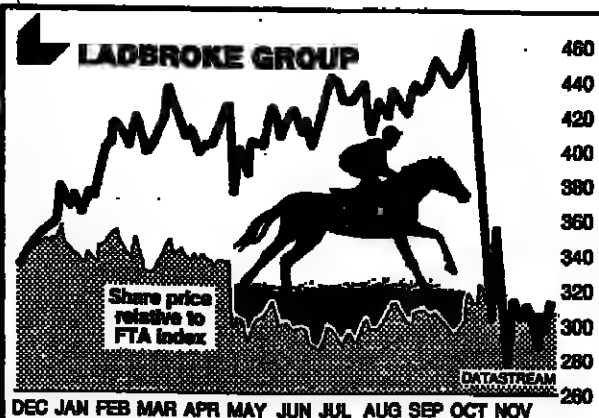
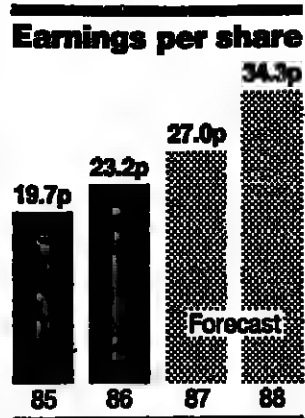
The legalization of off-track betting in the early 1960s was arguably Ladbroke's biggest business opportunity. But before committing itself, it commissioned the young Mr Cyril Stein, now chairman of the group, to travel to Ireland, where off-track betting had been legal for some time.

Not much liking what he saw, he reported to his management that while betting gave a very good return on capital, it was not suitable for Ladbroke. He concluded: "It would damage Ladbroke's image to be seen to be dealing with the hot pot.".

But business is business. The lure of profits was too much, even for this bookmaker to the aristocracy, and within two years, Ladbroke had bought its first chain of shops — on the Isle of Wight. But to preserve its upper-class image, the chain continued to trade under the name of the vendor. "In those days, to do otherwise would have been a bit like Fortnum & Mason opening up in Brixton," he says.

In the early 1960s, most off-track betting was still done furtively, in grubby shops on dingy back-streets, a throw-back to the days when it was illegal. Ladbroke's next important decision was to break the mould and offer a quality service in the high street.

Ladbroke's betting business is now more than twice the size of its nearest competitor,



New era for top people's bookmaker

When Mr Cyril Stein, now chairman, began working for Ladbroke 31 years ago, the company was doing what it had always done — bookmaking for the aristocracy. One had to have an entry in *Debrett*

and it generated a profit of £50 million last year.

Live satellite coverage of horse and greyhound meetings started last May and is being introduced progressively into Ladbroke's betting shops. Three hundred shops will have the facility by the end of December and all 1,670 will have satellite coverage by the end of next year. The resultant increase in turnover is closer to 10 per cent than the 5 per cent originally expected. No less than 14 per cent of this

flows through to gross margins and, in a full year, additional profits of about £15 million are expected from this source.

Mr Stein may have been overly jealous of Ladbroke's reputation in the Sixties, thereby delaying its entry into the mass market for a few years. But he was unquestionably right that the returns on betting made it a highly profitable activity, and for the next 20 years, betting was the mainstay of the group, enabling it to diversify its leisure

to have an account with Ladbroke, and the betting was all done at the racetrack.

Since the Government's decision in 1960 to legalize off-track betting that started the process of change which was to

turn Ladbroke into an international bookmaker, betting and property company. Since the acquisition of Hilton International, hotels will overtake betting as the main source of profit next year for the first time. Ladbroke will be rebranding all its hotels as Hiltons, to be classed in the four or five star category, but Mr Stein is not planning to take the group back full circle to its aristocratic origins.

by the acquisition of the Hilton chain, is likely to replace betting as Ladbroke's biggest profit earner next year. By then, it will have 50,000 bedrooms, and hotels are expected to contribute £100 million to 1988 profits compared with £27 million last year.

Mr Stein is unworried by the slumping dollar and its possible adverse impact on the number of Americans visiting London.

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Mr Stein is unworried by the slumping dollar and its possible adverse impact on the number of Americans visiting London.

Ladbroke has 125 hotels, 91

of which came with the Hilton acquisition. Another 15 are being added over the next three years, including the Shanghai Hilton which opened last Thursday. "We needed Hilton, not just to get the hotels, but to get the name. To be a world player, you need a brand."

Ladbroke, which made £21 million from its property division last year, enjoys rental income from a range of properties in the US, Britain and the rest of Europe, including the east wing of the Savoy, together with the shops along the Savoy's frontage, which it bought at about the same time Trust House Forte, its rival, bought the Savoy.

"As Charlie Forte (former chairman of THF) was coming in the front door, we were coming in the back door," he said. And it is clear that he would dearly like to own the Savoy himself, although he denies any predatory intentions towards THF.

Such is his confidence in the hotels business that Ladbroke has been buying up shares and options in THF. "The judgement that 1988 will not be a good year for London hotels is wide of the mark," he said. "We have no designs on this excellent company (THF) except that they will do very well next year. To me, it is a very undervalued share."

He could also have made the same remark about his own shares. Ladbroke was one

of the unfortunate companies that held a rights issue shortly before the market crash in October. The company received its money, but the bulk of the issue, its second this year, was left with the underwriters. The share price slumped from a high of 475p to 271p. It has since struggled up to 324p.

Analysts are predicting pretax profits of £155 million for this year, rising to £220 million next. Of this £220 million, hotels will account for £100 million, betting for about £55 million and the balance divides roughly equally between Texas Home Care and property. On this basis, the shares are on a 1987 multiple of 10.7 (the financial year ends on December 31), falling to 9.6 in 1988.

While the technical overhang from the rights issue may persist to depress the share price in the short term, the long-term outlook for the group is encouraging, unless there is a full-blown recession, in which case all bets are off. Hotels would feel the pinch. Mr Stein's optimism notwithstanding, counter-balanced by betting, which is traditionally recession proof.

No stock market investment is a racing certainty. But with the protection of a prospective yield a shade over 6 per cent, Ladbroke shares look like a better bet than a flutter on a horse.

Carol Ferguson

City fears return of wage-price inflation

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Falling unemployment and the economy's buoyancy is showing through in higher pay, with possible damaging effects, City analysts believe.

The gilt market, in particular, has been concerned about the prospect of an inflationary wage-price spiral re-emerging in Britain, and for this reason reacted badly to the Bank of England's reduction in base rates from 9 per cent to 8.5 per cent a fortnight ago.

There are fears that the official labour market statistics, due on Thursday, will show both average earnings growth and the rise in unit labour costs edging higher.

The underlying growth of average earnings has held at 7.75 per cent since April. Within this, the growth of earnings in manufacturing has moved higher, while the growth of service earnings has come down.

Unit labour costs in manufacturing, which were barely rising on a 12-month basis during the summer, are now set to move strongly higher, analysts believe.

Greenwell-Montagu, the gilt-edged market-maker, predicts that the figures, to be published on Thursday, will show that unit labour costs in October were 3.7 per cent up on a year earlier.

WHERE THERE'S STEEL THERE'S BRASS.

Small wonder a major US bank chose a British Steel-framed building for its new London head office. Today, steel looks as good on the costing sheet as it does on the designer's drawing.

Steel-framed buildings are also strong and faster to erect, and British Steel now holds its biggest share in the high-rise market for 50 years.

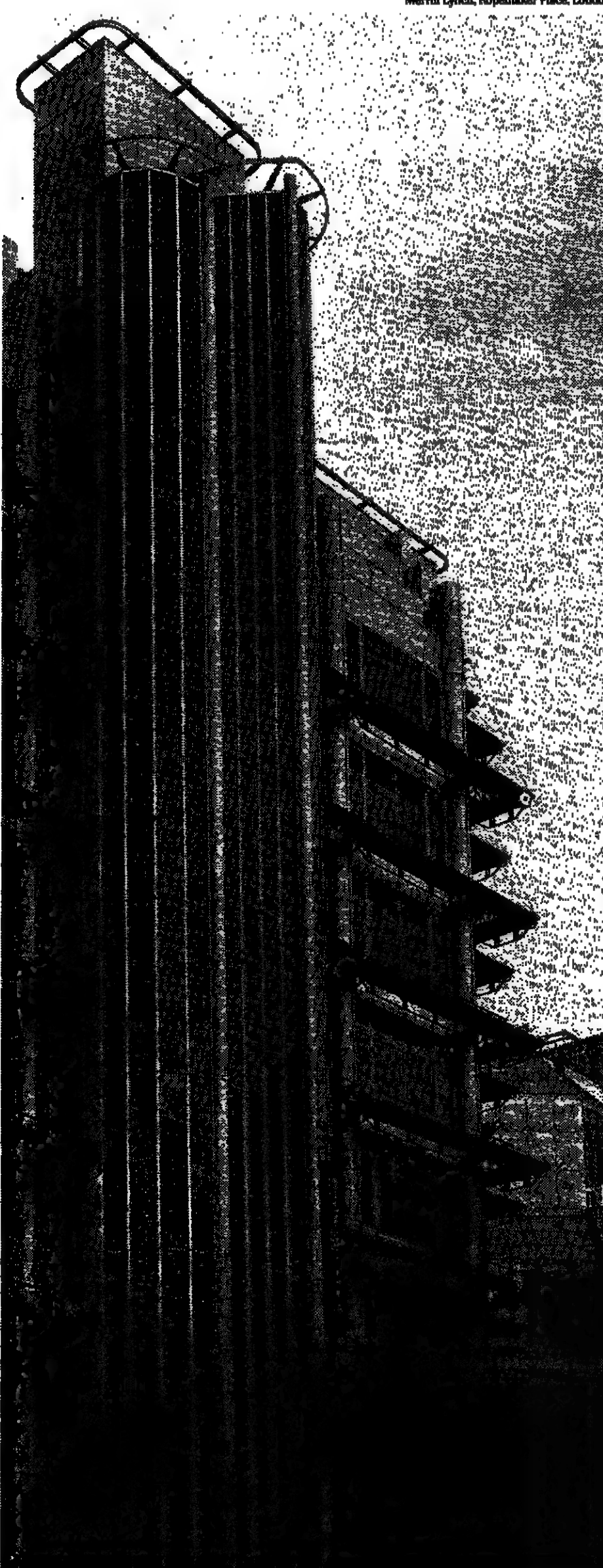
High-rise also describes what we've achieved in quality, reliability and customer service.

That's how we're backing Britain's industrial recovery.

We're selling British Steel around the world. Steel arches for mines... zinc-coated steel sheet for cars... steel for industry, for transport, for the farm, for the home....

Easier said than done, when you consider that world steel supply exceeds world demand. But done, none the less. With a combination of hard work and hard sell.

We've moved from deep loss to rising profit.



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COMPANY NEWS

Japanese firm to buy APV offshoot

APV Holdings is to sell Rose Bearings, a division of Baker Perkins, to Minebea of Japan for £9.05 million in cash. Rose Bearings designs, manufactures and markets plain bearings.

APV says that Rose does not fit in with the new group's main areas of activity. The proceeds from the sale will be applied to reduce group borrowings.

Phoenix Timber

The Phoenix Timber Group is paying an interim dividend of 1p (nil) for the six months to September 30. On turnover of £21.11 million (£17.82 million), pretax profit reached £831,000 (£132,000). The board cautions shareholders that, in contrast to the conditions during the first six months, the nature of the timber industry means that the second half is always subject to adverse seasonal variances and the vagaries of the weather. But it remains confident in the longer-term objectives of the group.

Evans of Leeds

An interim dividend of 2p (1.62p) is being paid for the six months to September 30 by Evans of Leeds. Total revenue grew to £5.28 million (£4.63 million), while pretax profit reached £2.77 million (£2.51 million). Earnings per share were 5.495p (4.37p). Invest-

ments made during the period were principally of a commercial nature, comprising some six properties with an overall purchase price in excess of £9 million, the board reports. These acquisitions are currently producing rentals of more than £1 million a year with attendant appreciation values. The total current rental income of the group is now in excess of £10 million.

Morcan loss

Morcan Holdings is cutting its total dividend for the year to September 30 to 1p (4p). Turnover expanded to £18.3 million (£16.05 million), but the company made a pre-tax loss of £217,000 (profit £1.95 million). Earnings per share were nil (16.5p). The board reports that the cash position remains strong and that the company has invested in the latest applications technology to improve productivity and minimize time spent on site. The company started the current year with work on hand of £7.5 million, most of which will be executed before September 30 next and it has subsequently received a further £2 million in orders.

Tanjong Tin

Tanjong Tin Dredging reports a profit, before tax and exchange adjustments, of £19,000 (loss £64,000) for the six months to June 30. Earnings per share were 1.3p (loss per share 4.3p).

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY — Interim: Brassey, Brown & Tawse Group, P&C Alliance Investment (expected on December 15), Greene, King & Sons, Klean-E-Zo Holdings, Marina Development, Palmerston Investment Trust, Vinton Group, Whitecroft. **Finals:** Arthur Lee & Sons, Control Techniques, Norton Open, John Perkins Meats, Yorkshire Television.

TOMORROW

Interim: Archimedes Investment Trust, British Land, Brookmount, BSS Group, Hidong Estates, Jack L. Israel, Old Court Currency Fund, Physu, Porter Chadburn. **Finals:** Amber Day Holdings, Bett Brothers, JA Devenish, Electronic Data Processing, Guinness Peat Group, Plaxtons (GB), Richards, GW Thornton Holdings, Vaux Group, Viking Packaging Group.

WEDNESDAY

Interim: Belhaven, Caffyns, Danac Investment Trust, ERF Holdings, Eve Construction, Gibbs Mew, Moorgate Investment Trust, Northamber, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, Tops Estates. **Finals:** Acatos & Hutcheson, Borthwicks, Chemring Group, English China Clays, Johnson Firth Brown, Midsummer Leisure.

THURSDAY

Interim: Aim Group, Celestion Industries, GM Firth Holdings, Halma, London Merchant Securities, M&S International. **Finals:** Bankers' Investment Trust, Cifer, Grand Metropolitan, Hawtin, Macarthy. **FRIDAY** — **Interim:** CH Industrials, Electric & General Investment Co, Forminster, Kelsey Industries, GF Lovell, North of Scotland Investment Co. **Finals:** Cardiff Property, Strata Investments.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	9.00%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.00%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	9.00%
Citibank NA	8.50%



Following the DIVIDED DECLARATION by the Company on 8 October 1987 NOTICE is now given that the following DISTRIBUTION will become payable on or after 14 December 1987.

Gross Distribution per Unit	5.00 cents
Less 15% USA Withholding Tax	0.75 cents
	4.25 cents
Converted at \$1.8225	\$0.02319616

Claims should be lodged with the DEPOSITARY: National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services, Third Floor, 20 Old Broad Street, London EC2, on special forms obtainable from that Office.

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should mark payment of the dividend in the appropriate square on the above address certificate with the certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

All other claimants must complete the special form and present this at the above address together with the certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

DATE 7 DECEMBER 1987.

CBI survey shows decline in export orders

A sharp decline in the number of new titles published in the first half of the year has been offset by a corresponding increase in the number of new editions of old titles. The publishers' association says that the number of new titles published in the first half of the year was 1,100, compared with 1,200 in the second half. The number of new editions of old titles published in the first half was 1,200, compared with 1,100 in the second half.

The CBL's latest annual trends survey says that the book industry's retail order books are healthy, and the average order business is increasing with 21 per cent of companies saying they are ordering books and below normal against 18 per cent in November.

The December business — the difference between those replying 'yes' against those replying 'no' — of just 3 per cent, compares with 11 per cent in November but, says the CBL, is similar to the levels recorded in the late summer and autumn.

Results of the survey, conducted between November 29 and December 9, show that apart from the dip in exports, manufacturing companies are confident of further rises in output and orders in the coming four months.

Of the 1,366 firms surveyed, 40 per cent said their output

Mr David Wigglesworth, the chairman of the CBA's economic advisory committee, said: "There is little in the

The monthly survey indicates that average prices of manufactured goods are set to rise at a slightly faster rate over the next four months, with 35 per cent of companies expecting to put up prices against 32 per cent in November. Only 4 per cent expect a fall.

Stocks of finished goods have been rebuilt following falls in the previous two months and the economy

Tunnel could bring UK job

The CERN group, which is spearheading the project, said that more positive attitudes in France towards industrial development could attract British companies relocating in France in preference to the South-east.

The team has presented its plan to the local planning authorities, which have to be convinced, the builders of the cross-Channel tunnel link, which has won overwhelming

ECONOMIC VIEW

NHS is a suitable case for treatment

new chairman of the Westminster Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children has been confirmed. Dr. J. H. W. St. John, who has been chairman of the society since 1964, will continue in the post for another year.

[illegible]

By 1979, a bigger and bigger spending programme. The National Service has been a security in public health, where funds and services are not to be seen we must be satisfied of spending. The public and private were not a system of health care, but dissatisfaction.

The government has chosen the high cost of providing its health care. The national insurance levy linked to the cost of providing health care, private or jointly run, is the criticism voiced in the public press about the cost of Britain's self-financed health care. The availability and

Price falls 'likely in metals'

After a striking recovery this year, fuelled by futures and options trading, metal prices are likely to show a general softening next year as oil prices weaken and demand from the developing countries continues to slacken. According to the London Metal Exchange, Unit of Metals in its World Commodity Outlook 1988...

The study of industrial raw materials and minerals is a sensitive indicator of economic activity. Prices are a factor driving up prices rather than shortages due to consumption.

It sees this in the way the gold price has moved, rising 32.5 per cent between July and September 23 this year.

The International Monetary Fund's index of metal prices (base 1980) recovered from its 64.4 loss in July last year to

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a textured surface, possibly a rock or concrete. The image is characterized by a vertical line on the left side, which appears to be a crack or a seam. The texture is rough and granular, with many small pits and protrusions. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights, emphasizing the unevenness of the surface. The overall composition is abstract and focuses on the play of light and shadow on the material.

Milton Keynes passes its milestone of 50,000 jobs

Midsize **Keynes** is a Buckinghamshire, the new town that claims to be Britain's fastest-growing city, has passed a milestone with the creation of 50,000 jobs since its designation as a development area in 1967.

And the 50,000th job has been created, as might be expected, in a Japanese consumer electronics company, ALPS Electric (UK).

It's gone to Helen Jones, aged 16, who left Denbigh Comprehensive School in Denbigh this summer and now works on the ALPS production line, carrying out final adjustments to television and video tuners. The company, which now employs 500 people including 13 Japanese, produces remote-controlled video tuners, modulation and keyboards.

Despite increasing government attention to the declining inner cities and pressure on industry to pour resources into urban regeneration, Milton Keynes Development Corporation officials say they are continuing to exceed their performance objectives in the current financial year.

Latest statistics show continuing population and employment growth, and a decline in unemployment.

The city's working population has risen to 68,500.

The cost of stress at the top

High technology, Big Bang and modern-day pressures are forcing more and more executives to leave their executive status levels suffered by directors and key managers, to seek expert outside help.

There has been a general realization that the executives most open to stress are an expensive, difficult-to-replace asset, but equally, many firms and individuals are reluctant to admit they need counseling, according to John Coral Thomas, who runs a counseling company.

He argues that the "assets" of senior executives can cost a medium-sized company anything between £300,000 and

very little thought is given to their maintenance."

Not surprisingly, more companies now recognize that, just as the purchase of a plant, "it requires an accompanying maintenance contract to service it over its operational life, especially to cover emergencies, expensive human assets also require periodic maintenance."

Replacement of an underperforming executive, says Mrs. Morgan-Thomas, can cost the equivalent of between 50 and 90 per cent of the first year's salary of almost any executive.

The highly emotive issue of

the complication that neither individuals nor companies want to admit the problem exists at all.

Mrs. Morgan-Thomson said the death last week of Dr. Garret Eberhart, the author of an article attacking the Archdiocese of Canterbury, high-lighted the problem of stress.

Here was a classic example of someone under stress who no one was likely to help or even hear if described by one of his colleagues as the case of a man who had packed up a burden and found it too heavy to cope with.

There are many cases like this, she said.

Banking on glasnost

[illegible]

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Romancing the Street

[illegible]

Plain sailing

[illegible][illegible]

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HOW WE'RE LOOKING AFTER
THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR BUSINESS

Nixon to
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Up 34 64 150

University of Warwick

The regeneration of British manufacturing starts here

By Kenneth Fleet

All the criticisms directed against manufacturing industry are true, especially the charge that it is a declining industry. It is still declining. High taxation, lack of incentive, too much government interference, insufficient government assistance, powerful and greedy trade unions, unfair foreign competition, high interest rates, oscillating exchange rates.

But parts of this wailing litany no longer hold water. However brutal the Thatcher regime may have been, it has certainly made the surviving parts of manufacturing competitive when measured by direct costs, mainly of course the numbers (much diminished) and efficiency of employees. Management has done half the job — but in doing that successfully it has brought management itself under a naked light. Management and overheads in British companies — the indirect costs — are too high. Thatcherism as a practical method for reviving Britain's industrial decline will only succeed if management becomes competitive. It is time for industry to educate its masters, or if it is too late to do more for them, to make them aware of what modern competitive industry is really about, to educate industry's future masters.

A manager should no longer be judged by the number of people working for him but by his ability to manage change, usually inspired by advancing technology, within a corporate strategy which he will have helped to formulate.

This is the core thinking of the remarkable Manufacturing Systems Group at the University of Warwick, where industry and academia have been woven into a seamless robe and arguably Britain's leading university science park has taken root. The moving spirit behind Warwick's perceived role in the regeneration of British manufacturing is Professor Kumar Bhattacharyya, aged 46, son of a distinguished Indian professor of chemistry, who in 1980 became the first holder of the Lucas Chair of



Combining industry and academia: Professor Kumar Bhattacharyya

Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Warwick.

He is an effervescent character who does not share the conventional dourness of a university professor. He is a rapid-fire critic of industry. "Decision-makers in British manufacturing industry have a craft mentality — tunnel vision — which cuts across the complexity of modern industry and hinders decision-making." In his experience, "many of the captains of industry are fuzzy thinkers, constantly confusing strategy and tactics." Where good quality graduates are used in companies "too often they are channelled into the research and development function or into some fashionable management culture. Information technology for instance, or the latest hype — Japanese manufacturing methods, quality circles and all. In the UK over the last 100 years, manufacturing has become chaotic. Companies now employ an army of consultants making a mystique out of Japanese common-sense practices."

Warning to this theme, Professor Bhattacharyya claimed that the root problems in British manufacturing can be tackled if good quality manpower is trained for decision-making: the teaching staff have the breadth to span both sides (a new masters

degree in design systems has recently been added, in conjunction with Rover and Rolls-Royce), and manufacturing and the organizational structure is simple and reinforces decision-making, not inter-departmental conflict.

"Business schools — too broad brush — do not offer the solution. In 25 years they have not contributed significantly because they give only a partial view. Managers of a technology business must also understand the technology — just as their counterparts do in our competitor companies overseas. The solution is to build a recovery strategy around catalysts for change — well-trained future managers and engineers who have the confidence and ability to manage change."

Preaching his gospel last week to the Confederation of British Industry, Professor Bhattacharyya described his Warwick cornerstone, the Integrated Graduate Development Scheme (IGDS): a modular part-time masters programme lasting an average of 2½ years and run jointly by a group of companies and the university. Its main features are (1) companies, not individuals, join. Each company must have a long-term career plan for its entrants and agrees to monitor their performance when they return to their company; (2) each module is followed up by project work

back at the company to relate the new knowledge immediately to the workplace; (3) university staff teach less than 50 per cent of the content of the course — the companies involved and specialist consultants do the rest.

The first intake, in 1981, came from Lucas, followed by the then Leyland Group. The motor and components strand is strong: GKN, Renault, Lotus, Borg-Warner, Cincinnati Milacron among others. Aerospace has arrived in the shape of British Aerospace, Rolls-Royce and Short Brothers. Computerisation came and stayed. Vickers Shipbuilders and Thoma EMI have joined this year.

Austin Rover, thanks especially to the foresight and determination of Andy Barr, has been a powerful influence. He recognized early that the IGDS was as much about management development as about technology: it may now offer a better training for management in manufacturing than a traditional MBA degree. AR also primed the pump for the Advanced Technology Centre (ATC), purpose-built and partly privately funded with laboratories, workshops, much advanced equipment, and close links with other related university departments (chemistry, physics, computing and engineering). The success of the ATC can be gauged from the

university's decisions to add another three floors to the existing two.

According to Professor Bhattacharyya "the university considers Austin Rover as its laboratory, and Austin Rover considers the university as its laboratory." In Andy Barr's judgement: "What Professor Bhattacharyya has done for us is help develop an integrated technical strategy that will give us a solid future and also help supply the young blood to see that strategy implemented."

Currently Warwick has some 450, and rising, young engineers and managers on the IGDS programme. So far 25 companies have joined the scheme. They have the benefit of the latest hardware and software for computer-aided design and manufacture, the ATC, a computer-integrated manufacturing laboratory, with DEC computers and Cincinnati Milacron computer-controlled machine tools and robotics; a simulation centre for manufacturing renewal, sponsored by Coopers & Lybrand, and directed to rejuvenating small and medium-sized companies; a laboratory for developing manufacturing processes, and a catalysis and surface studies research centre. Bhattacharyya Inc has £20 million of contracts, and the "total manufacturing, interdisciplinary approach" — the integration of technology with business strategy — is clearly a success.

It is not surprising that this new-grown grove of academe, a few miles from the centre of Coventry, is high on the Prime Minister's list of approved establishments.

The Warwick story does not end there. The emphasis, style and direction of the Manufacturing Systems Group have proved a powerful magnet, drawing companies, notably foreign ones, to the Science Park adjoining the Warwick campus. Some of the international names — Westinghouse, Olivetti, Teleco — are already there. More will follow, with the spreading awareness of the benefits that can flow from partnerships, at various levels, between industry and universities. The climate at Warwick seems exceptionally favourable.

GILT-EDGED

Yields should fall but then the plot thickens

Two months on, the players in the gilt-edged market still have no clear view of the world after the stock market crash. After the knee-jerk rally in the world's bond markets in October, they are no longer quite so confident about the economic landscape. Prevailing uncertainties have given investors the excuse to close their books and to accumulate cash for the year-end.

In our view, events in the US will provide a bullish environment for gilts in the next few months. Thereafter, however, the market is likely to be weighed down again by domestic considerations. Growing alarm about Britain's trade position may drive yields back up.

In ending a long bull market run, the stock market crash has delivered a sharp reminder of the risks of investing in equities. The result, that investors are likely to restructure their portfolios from equities towards bonds and cash.

Of course, the crash has prompted not just a rethink on the structure of portfolios but also of the economic outlook. The initial reaction was that the crash would depress economic growth and reduce inflation. More recently, the bond markets have been troubled by signs that growth may not be greatly reduced, strong commodity prices, and fears that the central banks might overdo it in pumping in liquidity to offset the effects of the crash.

Anxiety that the fallout from the stock market crash may not be wholly good news has been reflected in gilt yields. From 10.1 per cent immediately before October's crash, long gilt yields fell to 8.9 per cent in early November. They have since risen to 9.6 per cent. The market was particularly unimpressed with the Bank of England's readiness to cut another half of one percentage point off bank base rates on December 4.

The truth is that it is too early to tell exactly what the economic impact of the crash will be and, therefore, what the appropriate policy response should be. The unprecedented scale of the stock

likely to be more than usually fallible.

For many newly risk-averse investors, this has all added up to a good argument for doing little but build up cash holdings before the year end. In the new year, the market psychology will be greatly dependent upon international events, notably in the US.

The record monthly shortfall of \$17.6 billion in October was a vivid illustration that the US trade deficit is at the heart of the dollar's weakness. Even if the US succeeds in cutting the budget deficit, if the trade deficit falls to fall significantly, the dollar will remain under pressure.

Pressure on the dollar has been compounded by an apparent shift in the priorities of the US Administration. Facing a presidential election year and alarmed at the stock market crash, it has made clear that its top priority is to maintain economic growth. It seems that as long as the fear of recession remains, the US will be disinclined to support the dollar by raising interest rates.

While the evidence does not yet support the view that the US is about to enter a full-blown recession, we think there will be a significant slowdown in growth, to below 2 per cent, over the next few months. In combination with a weaker dollar, this suggests that the external environment will be conducive to a move towards lower yields in the gilt-edged market. The prospective disinflationary benefits of the strengthening sterling rate should help long yields dip below 9 per cent.

America's growth priority carries a further implication. Even if the US trade deficit begins to turn round rapidly, as seems possible later next year, and sentiment towards the dollar is repaired, this may not be bad news for bond markets elsewhere. This is because if growth were to remain weak, the US authorities would probably not any significant dollar rally in the bud by cutting interest rates sharply. As well as placing a cap on the market crash means that economists' forecasts are

dollar; this would allow lower interest rates abroad.

Unfortunately for the gilt-edged market, there is a disturbing similarity between British and US economic policy priorities. In common with the US, the Government appears to be giving top priority to ensuring that a significant downturn in economic growth is avoided. As a result, the Chancellor in his next Budget may err on the side of fiscal easing, and tax cuts of at least £2 billion (as well as tax reform?) still appear to be a big part of the Treasury's plans.

Such a fiscal stimulus is likely to keep Britain's economy growing, well ahead of its European competitors. In the absence of a sudden transformation in the performance of British industry, the Government will sooner or later have to review its policy of holding sterling at the DM3 level. A deteriorating current account during 1988 may begin to put pressure on sterling and it could fall to below DM2.90.

A downturn in oil prices, to perhaps \$15 a barrel, may compound this weakness, especially if Opec fails to curb overproduction among its members. Indeed, as in 1986, it could provide the Government with just the excuse it needs to abandon its implicit policy of stabilizing the rate against the mark and so do nothing to counter the market pressure on sterling.

The gilt-edged market would not take kindly to this, and yields would almost certainly rise back towards 10 per cent. Overseas investors would find it particularly alarming, especially as British membership of the EMS would remain a distant prospect.

All this is not a propitious background for enticing the Japanese investors' "wall of money" to the gilt market. You may not have noticed, but with Japanese housing starts up by more than 26 per cent on a year ago, they appear to be building houses with it.

Mark Cliffe and Neil Mackinnon
Nomura Research Institute

Nixon to take over as Amersham chairman

Amersham International: Sir Edwin Nixon is to become chairman, succeeding Sir John Hill, from next April.

Nabisco: Mr Alan Reeve will become group managing director (grocery) from the beginning of January.

Pet Plan: Mr Jerry Brownlee has been appointed a director.

RHM Foods: Mr Simon Petchey has been named logistics director.

GTE: Mr James Johnson has been elected chairman and chief executive officer, succeeding Mr Theodore Brophy, from next April.

Lynton Property & Reversionary: Mr Peter Matfield, Mr Howard Morgan and Mr John O'Halloran become associate directors.

British Aerospace Civil Aircraft Division: Mr BG Thomas has been appointed executive vice president, marketing operations. Mr CBG Misset, former corporate aircraft business and Mr RM McKinlay become deputy managing director, Airbus business.

Cipia Services: Mr Derek Maclean becomes a non-executive director.

Vauxhall Motors: Mr Peter Johnson becomes director, reliability and supplier development.

We Are Cleaning (UK): Mr Geoff Davies becomes operations director, Hi-Tech Division.

United Transport International: Mr Stephen Matthews joins the board as a non-executive director.

WA Tyzack: Mr WH Eastwood becomes non-executive chairman, succeeding Mr WJA Dacombe who remains a director. Mr G Goodwin becomes group managing director, succeeding Mr FH Davis.

Sellar Morris Developments: Mr Michael Ellis has been appointed development director.

AT Mays Group: Mr HE Farley, Mr RF Riddell, Mr RH Smith, Mr JS Rafferty, Dr I Dugdale and Mr J Grier join the board.

World Banking Group: Mr Michael Rossi has been appointed executive vice president and senior credit officer, succeeding Mr Lewis Coleman.

Northern Development Company: Dr John Bridge becomes chief executive.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				
Market rates for September 22	Rate	1 month	3 months	
New York	1.8424-1.8426	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
London	2.8912-2.8914	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Amsterdam	3.3982-3.3984	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Brussels	3.3982-3.3984	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Copenhagen	11.5252-11.5254	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Dublin	1.1250-1.1252	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Frankfurt	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Geneva	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Hong Kong	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
India	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Japan	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Madrid	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Manila	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Mexico	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Paris	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Porto	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Stockholm	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Switzerland	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Tokyo	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	
Zurich	2.4924-2.4926	0.0146-0.0148	0.0146-0.0148	

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

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Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

Other Sterling Rates: Argentina 1.8424-1.8426, Australia 2.8912-2.8914, Bahrain 3.3982-3.3984, Brazil 11.5252-11.5254, Canada 1.1250-1.1252, Denmark 2.4924-2.4926, Hong Kong 2.4924-2.4926, India 2.4924-2.4926, Japan 2.4924-2.4926, Korea 2.4924-2.4926, Malaysia 2.4924-2.4926, Mexico 2.4924-2.4926, New Zealand 2.4924-2.4926, Singapore 2.4924-2.4926, South Africa 2.4924-2.4926, Taiwan 2.4924-2.4926, Thailand 2.4924-2.4926, USA 2.4924-2.4926, West Germany 2.4924-2.4926, Yugoslavia 2.4924-2.4926.

Source: Reuters. Sterling spot rates are quoted in pence per £1. Forward rates are quoted in pence per £1.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

USM A-D

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	P/E
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4

USM L-R

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	P/E
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4

USM S-Z

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	P/E
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.4
1.200.000 Greenwich	20	0	20	20	20	20	100	10.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Barron Davis	Building, Roads	1.00
2	Summe Clothes	Draperies, Stores	1.00
3	Assoc Newspaper	Newspapers, Pub	1.00
4	Heywood Williams	Building, Roads	1.00
5	Evide	Chemicals, Plastics	1.00
6	Hepworth Ceramic	Industrials E-K	1.00
7	APV	Industrials A-D	1.00
8	Amcor	Industrials A-D	1.00
9	Goldberg (A)	Draperies, Stores	1.00
10	Rubert	Building, Roads	1.00
11	Megitt	Industrials L-R	1.00
12	Barton (as)	Draperies, Stores	1.00
13	Gleeson (M)	Building, Roads	1.00
14	BSG	Industrials A-D	1.00
15	Mawell Comm (as)	Newspapers, Pub	1.00
16	Brooke Tool	Industrials A-D	1.00
17	Croft James	Building, Roads	1.00
18	Elco	Industrials E-K	1.00
19	Monmouth	Property	1.00
20	Allen Walker	Leisure	1.00
21	Hall Eng	Industrials E-K	1.00
22	Trifford Park	Property	1.00
23	Abbott Mead	Paper, Print, Adv	1.00
24	Fitch Lovell	Food	1.00
25	Domino	Electronics	1.00
26	Transcontinental	Industrials S-Z	1.00
27	Powerscreen	Industrials L-R	1.00
28	Meat Trade Supp	Food	1.00
29	Diploma	Industrials A-D	1.00
30	Control Secs	Property	1.00
31	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	1.00
32	Church Charles	Building, Roads	1.00
33	Phys	Chemicals, Plastics	1.00
34	Sheaf & Simpson	Draperies, Stores	1.00
35	Savoy Hotels	Hotels, Caterers	1.00
36	Burd (Wm)	Industrials A-D	1.00
37	Polar (A)	Food	1.00
38	Invergoran Dist	Breweries	1.00
39	Chas Bros	Banks, Discount	1.00
40	NEI	Electronics	1.00
41	CH Ind	Industrials A-D	1.00
42	Sleight	Industrials S-Z	1.00
43	Tesco (as)	Food	1.00
44	Warrington	Building, Roads	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8.00 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

UNDATED

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

INDEX-LINKED

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987	High	Low	Close	Change	%
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50
1000000	100.00	99.00	99.50	-0.50	-0.50

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 7. Dealings end December 18. Settlement day January 4.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
152.1m Provident	308	+0.2	18.5	6.0	10.8
152.1m Provident	308	+0.2	18.5	6.0	10.8
152.1m Provident	308	+0.2	18.5	6.0	10.8
152.1m Provident	308	+0.2	18.5	6.0	10.8
152.1m Provident	308	+0.2	18.5	6.0	10.8

BREWERIES					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
2.61m Adell-Lions (as)	12.5	+0.1	0.5	4.0	8.7
2.61m Adell-Lions (as)	12.5	+0.1	0.5	4.0	8.7
2.61m Adell-Lions (as)	12.5	+0.1	0.5	4.0	8.7
2.61m Adell-Lions (as)	12.5	+0.1	0.5	4.0	8.7
2.61m Adell-Lions (as)	12.5	+0.1	0.5	4.0	8.7

BUILDING, ROADS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

FINANCE, LAND					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

FINANCIAL TRUSTS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

CINEMAS, TV					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

DRAPERY, STORES					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

HOTELS, CATERERS					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

INDUSTRIALS A-D					
Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5
17.5m Abbey	145	+0.5	1.5	1.0	15.5

17.5m Telephone Pers	188	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
14.5m Angloph	182	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m TDSN ESR (p)	817	++	26.5	12	222
45m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
45m Unicom	313	+18	8.4	8.7	18.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
17.5m Tiscali	113	++	14.0	8.5	10.5
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HORIZONS

A guide to
career choiceShortening the odds on
that vital shortlist

Many years ago a well-known English comedian stood for Parliament, but failed to get elected. For the gentleman in question it was the moment of truth, for until that moment he had thought he was universally popular. However, the verdict of the electors of that constituency appeared to suggest that he wasn't.

The experience of the job hunter is very similar to his. You begin your search buoyed up with optimism, and with good reason. After all, you have a record of solid achievement behind you; many people express admiration for your no-nonsense approach to your job; and, indeed, visitors and clients write to say what a pleasure it is to deal with you.

You therefore assume that you will sail effortlessly into your next post, since companies and organisations are clamouring for you to join them. Perhaps they are. But usually it is not as simple as that, and the first letter you receive which rejects your services comes as a nasty slap in the face.

Reactions vary according to the type of person you are. You may be surprised, abashed, incredulous, disconsolate or downright furious. But before you rush off to consult your solicitor about this outrage or set about penning a rude reply to its perpetrators, it is wise to pause for thought.

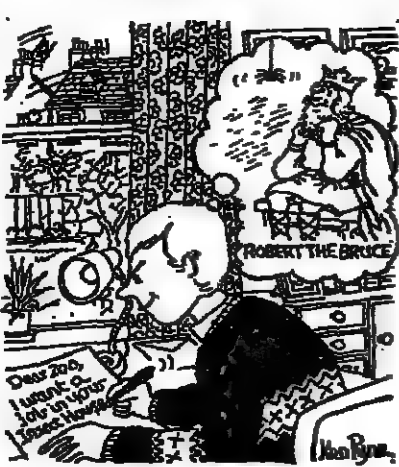
The first thing to remember is that you are not alone. A good many other applicants for that particular post will have received letters couched in a similar vein, and a fair proportion of them will be just as worthy as you. Unfortunately, if there is only one vacancy, only one person is needed to fill it, and selectors are often faced with a difficult choice.

The chances are that everyone who has reached the shortlist would be quite capable of doing the job in question. If there is an overwhelming response to the advertisement — and a situation where there are 100 or 200 applicants for a vacancy is not uncommon — many capable candidates may not even get an interview.

See if you can find out how many applicants there were for the job you applied for. If there were 150 and you got as far as the interview stage, clearly you have done very well. On the other hand, if there were only 10 candidates and you were not shortlisted for the position, you really should be worried.

Either you were not cut out for the post in the first place — in which case you need to change tack and look for jobs for which you are better suited; or your presentation is below par — which means you need to give your CV as well as your letter of application a facelift.

However, the fault does not necessarily



It is not always possible to judge your performance, but you may glean some clue from the tone of the final letter from the organization, which is recruiting, or simply by asking why you were not selected.

In cases where recruitment is handled by outside consultants, you need have no hesitation about approaching them with such a query with the reasonable expectation of getting an objective reply. At the same time, it would be worthwhile to request that they bear you in mind should they be asked to recruit for similar vacancies in the future.

Even where intermediaries have not been used, there is no harm in writing a courteous letter to the organization that has rejected you, thanking them for their sympathetic consideration of your application and stating your interest in any future vacancies that may occur.

Two final hints. Don't consign all the correspondence relating to your abortive applications to the waste-paper basket. You may need to refer to it again one of these days, so it should be filed away carefully. There may also be times when you are asked in inspiration and need to use one of your more effective letters of application again.

Above all, don't get discouraged. There is nothing intrinsically wrong with you. Your abilities are not in doubt. The fact that you are finding it a problem is due partly to the current job market and your lack of experience in this type of activity.

The job search is a testing time when you need to summon up all your reserves of patience, determination and resourcefulness. Even a giant of the twentieth century like Churchill experienced a period in the wilderness when his talents were overlooked.

"When I remember the famous men who had to fall to rise again, I pick myself up, dust myself down and start all over again."

This should be your philosophy on those dark days when a discouraging epistle plays through the letter box on to your hallway carpet.

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Still, it is no good just dwelling on what might have been or railing against the injustices of the selection process. Unless you are exceptionally lucky, this rejection letter will be the precursor of others, and the first lesson you need to learn is to accept the situation with a degree of equanimity.

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If you think you are the person we are looking for, Gerald Grainger (Tel: 01-464 3333 ext. 4567) would be pleased to have an informal discussion with you. For an application form and further particulars please contact: Chief Personnel Officer, Bromley Civic Centre, Rochester Avenue, Bromley, BR1 3UH. Tel: 01-290 0324 (24 hour answering service). Quoting ref. no. E3. Closing date: 31st December 1987.



THE LONDON BOROUGH

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

L'UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

L'Ecole d'architecture ouvre une inscription pour deux postes:

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pour l'enseignement de l'«urbanisme et du projet urbain».

Charge: Il s'agit d'un poste à temps partiel, à 8/10 de temps.

Titre exigé: Diplôme d'architecte ou d'ingénieur d'une université ou d'une école polytechnique, ou diplôme équivalent.

Entrée en fonction: 1er octobre 1988.

Les dossiers des candidatures doivent être adressés avant le 29.1.1988 au secrétaire de la présidence de l'Ecole d'architecture, 9, boulevard Helvétique, 1205 Genève, où peuvent être obtenus des renseignements complémentaires sur le cahier des charges et les conditions.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN CHAIR OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGY

As part of its bid to become a major centre for research and teaching in branches of Geology related to the origin, discovery, evaluation and extraction of petroleum, the University of Aberdeen is seeking a Professor to direct and stimulate developments in this field. The successful candidate would be expected to lead a strong research group and to be involved in the appointment and transfer of new staff. The ability to initiate innovative research in the broad field of Petroleum Geology, and good contacts within the petroleum industry, are essential.

Salary will be not less than £26,820 per annum, the professional average from 1.3.88.

Further particulars and application forms from the Personnel Section, The University, Regent Walk, Aberdeen AB9 1EX (tel 0224 273500) to whom applications (2 copies) should be returned by 15 January 1988. (Ref WD/063).

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE University Lecturer in the Faculty of Classics

Applications are invited for a post of University Lecturer in the Faculty of Classics, to take up appointment on 1 October 1988.

The successful applicant will be required to lecture and pursue research wholly or primarily in the language and literature of ancient Greece.

The appointment will be for three years, with the possibility of reappointment to the retiring age.

The personable scale of stipends for a University Lecturer, not ordinarily resident in College is £12,805 a year, rising by eleven per cent to £13,805. There is no grade of Senior Lecturer.

Further information about the duties and conditions of appointment may be obtained from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee, Faculty of Classics, St. John's Avenue, Cambridge CB3 9DA, to whom applicants (ten copies), including a curriculum vitae and the names of two or three referees, should be sent so as to reach him not later than 27 January 1988.

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK Lectureship in Law

Applications are invited for the following posts of Lecturer in the School of Law tenable from 1st October 1988:

- (1) Lectureship on either the Lecturer grade A scale: £21,245 - £18,210 pa
- (2) Temporary Lectureship for one year up to £13,000 on the Lecturer Grade A scale: £21,245 - £13,075 pa

The School would welcome applications from those with relevant and/or research experience in the field. Further particulars and application forms from the Registrar, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL (0203 528227) quoting Ref No 18/A/87/A. Closing date 30 January 1988.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD Department of Psychology Speech Science and Therapy Unit Senior Lecturer and Director

Applications are invited for a senior post, tenable from April 1, 1988, or as soon as possible thereafter, to lead and develop the established Speech Science and Therapy Unit. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the unit and for the supervision of research and teaching within the Department.

Candidates should have a speech science qualification. Additionally, qualifications or experience in the field of speech therapy, and an ability to teach postgraduate students, are highly desirable. The successful candidate will be expected to develop the unit and to lead a research group in the field.

Applicants should have a proven research record in the field of speech science and/or speech therapy. The successful candidate will be expected to develop the unit and to lead a research group in the field.

Salary at an appropriate level within the professional range, maximum from 1 March 1988 £22,380 per annum and subject to further related increases from 1 March 1989. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Registrar.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD
Lectureship in French Language and Literature

The college proposes, should there be a suitable candidate, to appoint a Lecturer in French Language and Literature for three years from 1 October 1988. Applicants should have research and teaching experience in the period 1980 to the present day. Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the Dean's Secretary, Christ Church, Oxford, OX1 1DP, and applications returned to The Very Revd. the Dean of Christ Church by 22 January 1988.

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UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM PHYSICS DEPARTMENT POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITION

Applications are invited for an SERC funded SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT tenable for three years from 1 October 1988 to work on studies of galactic and pre-galactic evolution. An interest in Cosmology, the formation, structure and clustering of galaxies, stellar dynamics or numerical simulations would be desirable. Theoretical and observational work are encouraged to apply.

Initial salary up to £11,680 p.a. on Range 1A plus superannuation.

Applications (3 copies) naming three referees and including a statement of research interests should be sent (quoting ref P1) by 15 February 1988, to the Registrar, Science Laboratories, South Road, Durham DH1 1TA, from whom further particulars may be obtained or contact Dr. C.S. Frank, Department of Physics.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

St. Peter's College is about to embark upon a major campaign to increase its capital endowment and wishes to employ an imaginative and energetic fundraiser to help realise its ambitious goals.

The successful candidate is likely to have broad fundraising experience, preferably with an educational institution or charitable foundation. The terms and conditions of the appointment are negotiable to the right candidate. In addition to a competitive salary, the Development Director will enjoy Senior Common Room membership with dining privileges.

Applications (marked 'Development Director') should be submitted to: The Master, St. Peter's College, Oxford, OX1 2DL, from whom further particulars may be obtained. The closing date for applications is January 22nd 1988.

THE MASTERSHIP BALLIOL COLLEGE OXFORD

The Fellows will soon be proceeding towards the election of a head of the College to succeed the present Master, Dr. Anthony Kenny, in October 1989. Any suitably qualified person, of either sex, who might wish to be considered for this position is invited to write in confidence to the Senior Fellow, Mr. J.M. Prest, at Balliol College, Oxford OX1 3BJ, preferably by 31 January 1988. The College's choice will not necessarily be limited to those whose names come forward in this way.

WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD Official Tutorial Fellowship in Economics

The College intends to elect an Official Tutorial Fellowship in Economics, to be taken up on 1 October 1988. The Fellow will be given the opportunity to undertake research in the field of Economics, and to engage in advanced study or research. The title of University Lecturer (CUP) may be conferred on the holder of the post. The fellowship is associated with a lectureship which will be met by the College. Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the College Secretary, Worcester College, Oxford OX1 2BB. Completed forms should reach her by 25 January 1988.

UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER LECTURER IN MUSIC

Required for 5 years on 1 October, 1988 or 1 April, 1988 in the post of Lecturer in Music. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and to conduct research in the field of Music. The post is associated with a lectureship which will be met by the College. Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the College Secretary, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YW where applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

MONASH UNIVERSITY Melbourne, Australia CHAIR OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Applications are invited for a Chair in the Department of Accounting and Finance. This is one of three Chairs in the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to develop the chair and to lead a research group in the field. The post is associated with a lectureship which will be met by the College. Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the College Secretary, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

Information on application procedures and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

Enquiries of an academic nature should be addressed to Professor G.G. Pearson, the Chairman of the Department, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

Information on application procedures and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

Enquiries of an academic nature should be addressed to Professor G.G. Pearson, the Chairman of the Department, Monash University, Victoria, Australia, to whom applications (5 copies) should be sent by 15 January 1988.

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For further details apply to:

Post: Robert Day, M.A., Headmaster, Giggleswick School, Salford, N. Yorks. BD24 0BE. Tel: 0752 35407

NORTH FORELAND LODGE Sherfield-on-Loddon Nr. Basingstoke, Hants OFFERS TWO 6th FORM ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

In this boarding school of 186 girls, 11-18 years with 50 in the Sixth Form. Open Scholarships to the value of half the fees will be available for girls entering the Sixth Form to study a combination of subjects including Science. Two new laboratories will open in September 1988.

Academic scholarship examinations will take place in late January at the school. The closing date for entries is January 15th, 1988. For further details please apply to the Admissions Secretary.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LONDON SCHOLARSHIPS

The School will offer up to four scholarships. Two full and two half of the value of the school fees for the duration of the child's stay at the school, to boys and girls aged 11+ to 14+ and 6th Form entrants. The Scholarships will be tenable from September 1988.

The curriculum leads to GCSE, followed by the International Baccalaureate. ISL is a day school normally containing students of 40 nationalities.

Enquiries should be addressed to: The International School of London, Greenwich Road, London, NW9 1TB, and marked 'Scholarships'. The closing date for applications is February 18th 1988, and the examination on February 19th 1988.

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL Scholarships

Up to twenty-two scholarships are awarded annually to boys of academic or musical ability. The top ten academic scholarships (awarded in May) are worth one half, one third or one quarter of the fees and there are also six music scholarships. All are awarded in February. The scholarships of half-fees are available for Sixth Form entrants (awarded in February). Up to four music scholarships (awarded in February). Up to four music scholarships (awarded in February). Up to four music scholarships (awarded in February).

Full details from The Headmaster, The School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 7BA. (Tel: 0743 4537)

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Tel: 01-222 2976

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Law Report
December 14 1987Redundancy cash
subtracted from
injury damages

Colledge v Bass Mitchell & Butlers Ltd
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Denis Buckley

[Judgment December 11]
Where a plaintiff who had suffered injury in an industrial accident for which his employers admitted liability subsequently accepted voluntary redundancy for which he was paid £9,000, the amount of the redundancy payment fell to be deducted from the special damages.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the defendants, Bass Mitchell & Butlers Ltd, from a decision of Mr Justice Glidewell, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division at Birmingham on June 23, 1986, who had awarded the plaintiff, Brian Keith Colledge, damages of £122,589 for injury to his back suffered in 1983 while he was at work. The damages were reduced by £9,000.

Mr Anthony Nicholls for the defendants; Mr Ronald Walker, QC, for the plaintiff.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in February 1985 the plaintiff had been offered and had accepted voluntary redundancy. He had been paid £9,000.

The judge had declined to give the defendants credit for that sum on the footing that it was a genuine redundancy, albeit that the plaintiff had been a prime candidate for redundancy by reason of his physical state consequential upon the accident.

The judge's reasoning had been that redundancy payments reflected past service and were retained by the redundant employee whether or not he immediately obtained substitute employment.

The £9,000 represented, as to about £1,000, the sum to which the plaintiff would have been entitled by statute. The balance was an inducement to him and other workers to accept redundancy, the intention being to reduce the workforce by about 300 over a two-year period. However, the composition of the sum was not material.

The starting point was Lord Reid's classic dictum in *Perry v Cleaver* (1970) AC 1, 13. In effect he had stated an equation, $a = b + c$, where "a" represented the sums which the plaintiff would have received but for the accident but which by reason of the accident he could no longer get, "b" represented the sums which he did in fact receive as a result of the accident, but which he would not have received if there had been no accident and "c" represented the compensation to which he was entitled.

On the judge's findings, but for the accident the plaintiff would have been unlikely ever to have been made redundant and would have worked for the defendants until his retirement.

Prima facie, therefore, the £9,000 was part of "b" but not of "c" and accordingly fell to be deducted.

The simple equation was subject to qualifications. The grounds of justice, reasonableness and public policy (per Lord Emslie, Lord President, in *Wilson v National Coal Board* (1981) SLT 67, 70) and to the doctrines of *res inter alios acta* and remoteness.

As a result it was now

established that compensation was assessed on the basis of pay net of income tax, and of deductions for pensions contributions. Equally receipts from a health insurance scheme funded by the employer had to be deducted as a receipt resulting from an accident. Again, receipts from the benevolence of third parties fell to be ignored.

Finally, but not comprehensively, while statutory mobility and attendance allowances were to be ignored, unemployment, sick pay, and sickness benefits fell to be taken into account because they were intended to compensate the plaintiff for being without an income which he would in fact have had but for the accident.

What about redundancy payments? In *Wilson v National Coal Board* the whole colliery closed down and all employees other than the plaintiff were offered and accepted alternative employment, thus disqualifying them from receiving redundancy payments.

The plaintiff, who had been injured by an accident for which the defendants were responsible, was clearly recompensed and received such payment. The House of Lords had held that credit should be given for the redundancy payment on the application of the principle in *Perry v Cleaver* and, in particular, the public policy consideration that otherwise employers would be tempted to dismiss workers on the ground of incapacity rather than redundancy where those alternatives were open.

Mr Walker had sought to distinguish that decision. He had been assisted in that by the fact that their Lordships had said that it was a decision of special facts, and that the essential purpose of a redundancy payment was to compensate for the loss of a settled job and not to compensate for loss of earnings.

His Lordship said that there were two important difficulties. The only way the argument could be put was that the plaintiff suffered a head of damage described as "loss of the job", and that the redundancy payment was a sufficient loss by accepting voluntary redundancy.

But if that was correct every workman who lost his job in consequence of an accident but was not redundant should receive damages for loss of the job, the measure being the amount he would have received if he had been made redundant. That did not happen.

The plaintiff would have suffered no additional loss by being compulsorily redeployed, redundancy being a sufficient loss by accepting voluntary redundancy.

To regard the plaintiff as claiming a loss of redundancy rights might be slightly more promising, in that he would not have lost the right but for the accident, but it ground to a halt because exactly the same could have been said by the plaintiff in *Wilson*. The plaintiff's position was not distinguishable, and the whole of the £9,000 should be deducted.

The appeal would be allowed to the extent of reducing the damages by £9,000.

Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Denis Buckley agreed.

Solicitors: Godfrey, Digges & McKay, Birmingham; Rowley Ashworth, Birmingham.

Prior agreement is
vital to handling

Regina v Park
Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice French

[Judgment December 4]
To constitute the offence of handling stolen goods, it was necessary that any arrangement to do so must have taken place after the goods had been stolen and an arrangement prior to the theft was not sufficient.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing in part an appeal by James Chalmers Park aged 51, solicitor from Harrow, Wad, against his conviction at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Rant, QC and a jury) on May 7, 1987 and sentence of three years imprisonment on a count of handling stolen goods.

Application for leave to appeal on four other counts of handling stolen goods on which the appellant was convicted was refused, as was an application for leave to appeal against sentence of two years imprisonment on a count of handling stolen goods.

Section 22(1) of the Theft Act 1968 provides: "A person handling stolen goods if... knowing or believing them to be stolen goods... or if he arranges to do so."

Mr Michael Beckman, QC and Mr Charles Taylor, QC for the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Michael Worsley, QC and Mr Fabian Evans for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF, giving the judgment of the court, said that the prosecution case was that a number of cheques had been stolen and later paid into the appellant's bank account.

There was no dispute on the factual evidence relied on by the prosecution and no dispute that moneys concerned had ended up in the appellant's bank account.

The appellant's case was that the moneys had come into his bank account innocently; he had clients and received moneys on their behalf.

The prosecution relied on

features of the dealings as showing that the appellant's account was not true. There were no addresses of such cheques and his secretary did not know of them.

Money paid into the appellant's clients' bank account was, on one occasion, used for his own purposes. Also accounts given by him were at variance with facts in some instances.

In one instance it was the intention of those responsible that £900,000 would be transferred to the appellant's account and a Telex message was sent from the appellant's office which purported to authorize the transfer of that sum to Coutts Bank together with other Telex messages, originating in London, which purported to authorize the transfer of the money to the appellant.

In the course of argument before the Court of Appeal it became apparent that any arrangement with the appellant, on any view of the facts, must have taken place before the Telex messages were sent and that was clearly before the money was stolen.

Counsel for the Crown had submitted that an arrangement made before the goods were stolen and not terminated was sufficient and that the words "to be stolen" were adjectival only and could include goods to be stolen in the future.

In the view of the Court of Appeal that construction was not correct. Guilty knowledge must exist at the time the offence was committed and it was not possible to have guilty knowledge if the goods had not been stolen.

The appropriate charge where there was a prior arrangement only was one of conspiracy. No authority had been drawn to the attention of the Court of Appeal on that point and different views were taken by academic writers.

However, the Court had no doubt that it was not possible that an arrangement for the future sufficed and the appellant's conviction on that count had to be quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

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City fears return of wage-price inflation

By David Smith
Economic Correspondent

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Gatting is in need of reassurance by Lord's officials

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Karachi

Mike Gatting, the England captain, told the Press here yesterday that he would not feel inclined to play in the third and last Test match, starting on Wednesday, unless he had cleared up one or two things with Ramzan Subba Row and Alan Smith, chairman and chief executive respectively of the Test and County Cricket Board, when they arrive here today.

He said the whole team was upset with the way it had been treated, and that getting into the right frame of mind for another Test match would be hard work for everyone.

The World Cup in Pakistan had been very well run, said Gatting, and played "an exceptionally cordial, friendly and enjoyable atmosphere". But once the England tour started "everything seemed to go back to a set plan, mainly as a result of Imran Khan's retirement". All stability in the Pakistan management seemed to have gone. "We knew what it would be like, but not in my wildest dreams did I think it would be as bad as this."

Gatting was referring not only to the umpiring but to a general lack of cooperation. One of the players' grievances is that last Wednesday and Thursday the TCCB exerted so much more pressure on them than "other parties", by which Gatting meant the Pakistan Board. Of course it is responsible.

"No sportsman," Gatting said, "unless he is slightly warped, and I know one of these would want to win at all costs. If you do, the enjoyment is taken out of the game. I have done three tours to Pakistan and things have got progressively worse. Now I've had enough."

And so he went on. I am sorry myself that Gatting is still gnawing away at the bone. It would be much better left alone at the moment. If not, some of the goodwill now behind the England players may be forfeited. They may start to think that they are blameless, and they are certainly not that. So long as he keeps his mouth shut and holds down his job, Gatting will find himself cheered to the echo from Southend to Sydney - not in spite of the intervention from Lord's but because of it.

Border counters a Hadlee burst

Adelaide (Reuters) - The Australian captain, Allan Border, scored the 22nd century and 7,000th run of his Test career to help his side to 225 for four by the close of the third day of the second Test here, when Australia still needed 61 to avoid the possibility of having to follow on.

Border, who is 105 not out, passed Sir Donald Bradman's record of 6,996 Test runs when he reached 71. Bradman, who is now 79, was at the Adelaide Oval to see his landmark overtaken. Only Greg Chappell, with 7,110 runs, has now scored more heavily for Australia.

Border went in at 29 for two after Richard Hadlee had removed Boun and Dean Jones in the space of four balls. Boun got inside edge chances to stammer while Jones, who did well to survive the first two deliveries, fell to the third, noddling recognition of Hadlee's skill even before the umpire lifted his finger.

Border gradually settled to dominate a 56-run partnership with Marsh, unleashing some fine cover drives and square cuts. Marsh went soon after the interval, but Hadlee, who has taken 38 from 24 overs.

Wang rode his luck while sharing in a fourth wicket partnership of 119 before falling to Snedden, immediately the new ball was taken.

New Zealand have only themselves to blame for not being in a stronger position. They missed at least three chances to dismiss Border, whose century came from 272 deliveries in 337 minutes. At 57 he should have been stumped after an un-

successful charge at Gray, the left-arm spinner, while at 66 Jeff Crowe spilled a tough chance at midwicket off Patel's bowling. Then Hadlee, at slip, completely missed a snick in the final over of the day.

On Saturday, Martin Crowe completed his eighth Test century, a New Zealand record, before the declaration at 485 for nine. Crowe, who made 137 and Andrew Jones, who scored 150 put on 213, but New Zealand hopes of a second day win were ended by sterling work by McDermott.

In Melbourne, the fast-medium bowler, Shane George, aged 17, in only his third match, took 4-10 for Australia, took four for the 81 against Victoria.

CRICKET

SCOREBOARD FROM FAISALABAD

England won toss

First Innings 292 (B C Broad 118, M W Gatting 79; Iqbal Qasim 5 for 83, Abdul Qadir 4 for 104)

Second Innings									
	Batsmen	Runs	Wickets	Over	Rate	Extras	Total	Wickets	Over
G A Gough	100	100	1	12.5	7.69	0	100	1	12.5
B C Broad	118	118	1	15.5	7.61	0	118	1	15.5
D W J Gooch	20	20	1	1.5	13.33	0	20	1	1.5
M W Gatting	79	79	1	11.5	6.74	0	79	1	11.5
J E Embury	10	10	1	1.5	6.66	0	10	1	1.5
N A Foster	0	0	1	0.5	0.00	0	0	1	0.5
R T Robinson	0	0	1	0.5	0.00	0	0	1	0.5
Extras	11	11	0	0.5	22.00	0	11	0	0.5
Total	157	157	6	42.5	3.65	0	157	6	42.5

19 N French, N G B Cook and E E Hemmings did not bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-47, 2-102, 3-107, 4-115, 5-115, 6-120. BOWLING: Mudasir 12-1-39-1; Amir Malik 3-0-20-1 (1 not out); Qasim 15-3-45-3; Qasim 10-2-25-2.

PAKISTAN
First Innings 191 (Salim Malik 60; N A Foster 4 for 42)

Second Innings									
	Batsmen	Runs	Wickets	Over	Rate	Extras	Total	Wickets	Over
Mudasir Nazar	60	60	1	12.5	4.80	0	60	1	12.5
Salim Malik	42	42	1	11.5	3.64	0	42	1	11.5
Extras	6	6	0	0.5	12.00	0	6	0	0.5
Total	108	108	2	24.5	4.39	0	108	2	24.5

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There is a Test match to be played on Wednesday, albeit one which no one wants, and England will be best served by looking ahead to that as purposefully as they can. There would be nothing to be gained even from speculating as to what might happen if Gatting were to say that he is not inclined to play. I am certain he will not, and that the first thing Subba Row and Smith will do here today is to reassure the captain that he carries their confidence.

On Saturday England found an unexpected source of support in an article in *The Nation*, a daily newspaper published in Lahore. The author, Nasir Abbas Mirza, provides the occasional "light-hearted contribution" on a subject of his choice. Heaven knows what he must be like in one of his more venomous moods. A friend of Imran Khan's, he wrote how "with the help of puppet umpires, Haseeb Ahsan has frustrated the England team enough to behave in a manner they seemed incapable of."

Haseeb and Mirza are described as "a perfect example of the maxim that give a small man power and he will show you how small he is, and that is exactly what is happening." The aim of the establishment is "not only to win at all costs but to frustrate the opposition by blatant cheating..." As you may imagine, the photographer was being working overtime.

It was with infinite relief that we left Faisalabad behind on Saturday evening, the second Test match having been left drawn in a suitably irregular manner. During the last drinks' interval, with a mandatory 10 overs or half an hour's cricket remaining, everyone's mood remained, everyone's mood remained. Thus, for the last time in one of cricket's very darkest weeks, were the game's conventions spurned. At the time Pakistan were 50 for one in their second innings and coasting to a comfortable draw, after a feeble English effort to put them under pressure.

Gatting's brilliant innings and Broad's workmanlike century which had set the week going was no more than a distant memory. The rest had been a catalogue of provocation, indignation, perversion, allegation, and attempted vindication, not to mention stubbornness, duplicity and self-interest - for which many are answerable and few above reproach. The innocent victim was the game of cricket - so defenceless against the capriciousness of those who administer and play it.

Stephen Hendry and Mike Hallett completed an astonishing about-turn in fortunes to recover from 50 down to beat the Scots in the first round of the 66, the Anglo-Scottish pair took a 7-5 overnight lead and also the £5,000 bonus prize for the combined highest break, 170.

Although Thorburn and Taylor won the first two frames yesterday, Hendry and Hallett, who had been playing very much a minor role, then won the next five games in a row, Hendry sprinkling the match with breaks of 58 in frame 16, 97 in the next game and then 106 in the ninth.

Hendry, aged 19, from Edinburgh, collected his second major trophy of the season, having beaten Taylor in the Scottish Grand Prix final in October. Hendry and Hallett, from Grimsby, made a wonderful start to the match on Saturday, when they appeared to be heading for as severe a beating as they suffered in the first round, when they were crushed 12-3 by Steve Davis and Tony Meo.

But then Hendry hit top form, and his effortless run of 116 in the eighth frame on Saturday, the first of his two centuries in the match, was followed by a break of 95 in frame 10. With Hallett's thirteen-frame run of 66, the Anglo-Scottish pair took a 7-5 overnight lead and also the £5,000 bonus prize for the combined highest break, 170.

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TENNIS: MECIR AND SMID CASH IN WITH A MEMORABLE DOUBLE

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Miloslav Mecir and Tomas Smid, from Czechoslovakia, won £40,000 by beating the Wimbledon champions, Ken Flach and Robert Seguso, by 6-4, 7-5, 6-7, 6-3 in the final of the Nabisco Masters doubles tournament at the Albert Hall yesterday. Four weeks earlier, in the only previous match between these teams, the Czechoslovakians won the Wimbledon final.

Three years ago Smid won the Albert Hall event with another compatriot, Pavel Slozil. Smid has also shared the United States and French championships, in each case with John Fitzgerald, of Australia. By contrast the younger Mecir, who was making his first appearance at the Albert Hall, is still maturing in the craft of doubles.

Mecir and Smid had a remarkable tournament. Twice - first in the all-play-all series and then in a semi-final - they came from behind in five-set matches to beat the Australian and US champions, Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd. Then, from runners from the moment they broke Seguso's service in the first game, they disposed of the Wimbledon champions. It may be possible that, although Smid has 31 birthdays behind him, they could become the first Czechoslovak team to win a grand slam title.

It soon became apparent that Seguso's (serving from the backhand) were less harassing than Flach's. Flach and Seguso had Smid's first five service breaks and at the end of the second set he began a run of five consecutive service games that convincingly suggested he was the stronger player.

The Czechoslovakians had six break points against them when Smid was serving at 3-4 down in the second set. But they won that game and Smid held his service from love-30 down in the last game of the set. That led the Americans with an awful lot to do and the Czechoslovakians won the match 2-1 in the third set.

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The decisive break came at 4-3 when a Mecir backhand asked too much of Flach's backhand volley. Smid had a break point against him in the next game but responded with a service and volley of thunderous authority.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Leeds take peerless road past Wigan

By Keith Macklin

Leeds..... 19
Wigan..... 6

As the boisterous sound at Burnden Park on Saturday seemed to signal that one era was over and another was beginning, Leeds came out of the cold with an emphatic victory in the John Player Special Trophy semi-finals.

Praise will be heaped on Schofield and Medley for scoring magnificent tries but Leeds must also give thanks for two superb pieces of defensive covering. First, the full back Gurr swept across to tackle Gill to touch after the scrum had broken the cover, then a fine burst by Russell appeared to split Leeds wide open, only for Heron to come from nowhere to bring down Giddard short of the line.

In the third minute Crooks, of Leeds, fell and was led off with his shoulder dislocated and a suspected fracture of the arm. Then Stephenson kicked a penalty for Wigan and Hampson swept round the scrum and along the touchline for a try to make it 6-0.

Leeds, inspiringly led by Tunks, got a grip on themselves and the game and before half-time the young international forward Medley, named man of the match, broke through, sold a dummy to Hampson and scored, Mackill adding the goal. In the second half, Hampson dropped a goal and Schofield produced a classic side-step to wrong-foot Hampson and score. Near the end Schofield again walked through and Morris sent Mackill under the posts for a try to make it 19-6.

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SNOKER

Hendry leads the way for splendid recovery

Stephen Hendry and Mike Hallett completed an astonishing about-turn in fortunes to recover from 50 down to beat the Scots in the first round of the 66, the Anglo-Scottish pair took a 7-5 overnight lead and also the £5,000 bonus prize for the combined highest break, 170.

Although Thorburn and Taylor won the first two frames yesterday, Hendry and Hallett, who had been playing very much a minor role, then won the next five games in a row, Hendry sprinkling the match with breaks of 58 in frame 16, 97 in the next game and then 106 in the ninth.

Hendry, aged 19, from Edinburgh, collected his second major trophy of the season, having beaten Taylor in the Scottish Grand Prix final in October. Hendry and Hallett, from Grimsby, made a wonderful start to the match on Saturday, when they appeared to be heading for as severe a beating as they suffered in the first round, when they were crushed 12-3 by Steve Davis and Tony Meo.

But then Hendry hit top form, and his effortless run of 116 in the eighth frame on Saturday, the first of his two centuries in the match, was followed by a break of 95 in frame 10. With Hallett's thirteen-frame run of 66, the Anglo-Scottish pair took a 7-5 overnight lead and also the £5,000 bonus prize for the combined highest break, 170.

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BOWLS

Australians clean up to take first prize

Ian Schuback and Jim Yates, of Australia, gave the English a lesson in indoor bowling and walked off on Saturday with £14,000 - the first prize in the Midland Bank world pairs in door bowls championship at Bournemouth. (David Rhys Jones writes).

"Fair dinkum," the Coolanganger skip, Ian Schuback, said as he chuckled his way through the Press conference which followed the Australian pairs' emphatic 5-1 final victory over the British champions, Gary Smith and Andy Thomson, from Kent.

Both pairs were ranked outsiders at the beginning of the week and Schuback, aged 35, a high-profile bowler professional, was saying only his second visit to the United Kingdom having

plundered the silverware at last year's Commonwealth Games. RESULTS: Best group: G Smith and A Thomson (Eng) to D J Bryant and T Jones (Wales), 5-1. Best group: G Smith and A Thomson (Eng) to D J Bryant and T Jones (Wales), 5-1. Best group: G Smith and A Thomson (Eng) to D J Bryant and T Jones (Wales), 5-1.

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A mediator explains his mission

By Ian Stafford

England's discontented players will not face disciplinary action after their decision to support their captain, Mike Gatting, in his bitter dispute with the umpire, Shakoor Rana, which threatened to cut short the present tour of Pakistan.

By speaking out, the players were technically in breach of their tour contracts, which forbid them talking to the media, but Raman Subba Row, chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), gave an assurance yesterday that this particular chapter is closed.

"I can sympathize with the England team," Subba Row said yesterday. "It takes an awful lot for the players to come together and issue such a statement and it merely indicates just how frustrated they must all be. It was not a muddy but an understandable gesture made under the circumstances and, although they were technically not allowed to do it, I do not think any the worse of them."

Subba Row also confirmed that Gatting is safe in the captaincy, despite his statement that he will not tour Pakistan again and is considering his position.

"Nothing will happen until after the tour ends," Subba Row said. "An inquiry will be held after that but we really have no preconceived ideas. Nobody must think that Gatting will be fired, either in Pakistan or back in this country."

Subba Row was speaking to *The Times* yesterday, just hours before he and the TCCB chief executive, Alan Smith, flew out to Karachi on one of the game's most delicate missions for many years.

Their aims, Subba Row said, would be to pacify the angry England team, reminding them that there is a third Test match in Karachi still to play and, more important, act as mediators and peacemakers.

"Our purpose is to get to know all the facts on the spot," Subba Row added. "We need to talk and listen to the players in order to understand what exactly has happened over the past week, before we can decide on any course of action. In the wider interests of the game it is imperative that we should complete the tour before setting up our own full-scale inquiry."

"But we will also explain to the England

team the strength of cricketing feeling in this country. Dissent on the field, in any form, is totally unacceptable. It always has been and always will be, and they will all have to accept that."

The TCCB representatives will also seek an explanation from the Board of Control of Cricket in Pakistan, and in particular, its president General Saifur Butt, about their handling of the affair. The TCCB, it is understood, feels badly let down by Butt, who, in a telephone conversation with Lord's, had promised to resolve the dispute personally. It is because of Butt's assurance that the TCCB did not act sooner. It was

when it became clear that Butt was reluctant to intervene that the TCCB then issued its own controversial order to Gatting to apologize.

Subba Row admitted: "We certainly intend to talk to the Pakistani authorities because we are not happy with their arrangements during the tour."

He remains confident that his visit will prove successful. "It is very sad for the game that all this should have happened, but I expect to be back in England, with the matter sorted out, by next weekend." With the players due to return on December 22,

the full inquiry is likely to be held in January.

Subba Row and Smith have plenty of experience of trying to resolve cricket problems in the sub-continent. "I was in India in 1981-82 as tour manager when Boycott played golf during a Test match," the TCCB chairman said. "Alan Smith was in charge in Pakistan, in 1984, when all the drugs allegations against Botham emerged, so we are both understanding and sympathetic towards the players."

"In hindsight it was a bad idea to play against Pakistan last summer, as well as in the World Cup and now the winter tour. The fact that the two teams have played so regularly is one of the contributing factors to the whole problem. But we will not face Pakistan again for four years so matters should be resolved by then."

Ironically it seems the Pakistanis will now get their way in arguing for an independent panel of Test umpires. "During the World Cup mistakes were made but, because there were neutral umpires, they were all accepted," Subba Row said.

"Without doubt the events of the past two months have accelerated the move for a Test panel and the matter will be fully discussed at next July's meeting of the International Cricket Conference."

Ossie Wheadley, the TCCB cricket committee chairman, has been asked to look into how such a panel of umpires could be set up.

Gatting demands assurances, John Woodcock Page 33

Kahn nominated for final Test

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Although he was responsible for the majority of the more dubious decisions in the first Test match in Lahore, which Pakistan won by an innings and 87 runs, Shakoor Rana was one of the umpires nominated to England by the Pakistan Board for the final Test match which starts on Wednesday. It seemed last night as though, at England's request, he had been withdrawn, and that the two most likely to stand are Mubhoob Shah and Khizar Hayat.

Shakoor's nomination is another indication of how deeply

Pakistan resented having David Constant feasted upon them twice in England last summer, despite their protestations. In these parts, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth is the rule of custom. Perhaps this time, though, the Pakistanis are wanting to be thought more flexible than the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) was in August when it decided to take Constant out of the Oval Test match.

The only greater provocation the Pakistanis could have come up with would have been to propose the contemptible Shakoor Rana, whose row with Mike Gatting in Faisalabad

was only one of many he has had in his 13 years of umpiring Test matches.

Mubhoob Shah is sometimes described as being Pakistan's "safest" umpire. He was one of those who represented them in the World Cup, standing at Jaipur in the return match between England and West Indies. Khizar Hayat, who also officiated in the World Cup, was Shakoor's partner last week.

The hope must be that by the time the Australians come to Pakistan next year they will have neutral umpires. Pakistan wanted them for the present

series, and in fact had them for their test two Tests against West Indies here a year ago.

Neutral umpires were introduced successfully into the World Cup and I would not entirely rule out their standing in England next summer for the Tests against West Indies, should the TCCB decide, after what has been happening round the world in the last month (in India and Australia as well as in Pakistan) that the time has come to take a lead. If it is a matter of waiting for the International Cricket Conference to do so, it might never happen.

Promoting peace is Irish goal

Both sides of the Irish border will have to mount massive security operations when Northern Ireland and the Republic face each other in the World Cup qualifying group six.

Northern Ireland could not have been given more sensitive opposition than the Republic as they pursue their third consecutive World Cup finals. The sectarian violence that has afflicted cross-border European meetings between Irish club sides in recent years is a clear indication of the potential problem FIFA has inflicted on the two countries, though the Royal Ulster Constabulary is confident it can successfully police the Belfast match.

It did so in 1979, when the European Championship World Cup draw, page 32

qualifiers produced the only all-Ireland clashes, both trouble-free, since the two associations split in 1921. And the Irish are united in their determination to use their meetings to improve relationships between the two countries, and boost their chances of a double Irish qualification. Spain, Hungary and Malta make up group six, and Billy Bingham, the Northern Ireland manager, believes both sides are capable of qualifying. "It's an excellent, competitive group with any two of the four main countries in with a chance," he said. "None of us can have any complaints."

© Columbia will provide the South American opposition for England and Scotland in the end-of-season Rous Cup.

Tongue-lashing for the referee after Parks loses teeth

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Tottenham Hotspur 1
Charlton Athletic 0

Tottenham Hotspur, in their present delicate state, scarcely deserve to be kicked in the teeth. They are so woefully short of self-belief that they need a touch of fortune rather than misfortune, but at White Hart Lane yesterday morning they received yet another dispiriting setback.

The incident which was to usher Charlton Athletic to their first away win of the season occurred seven minutes from the end. As Parks came out to collect Fairclough's weak back pass, he collided with Williams and, as he lay, visibly hurt, Campbell prodded the loose ball into the unguarded net.

Parks, struck on the chin, broke a couple of teeth and bit through his tongue but the goal was allowed to stand. Terry Venables was angered by the decision and, after the end, gave his opinion to the referee. "If those challenges are not stopped, you encourage them," he said.

"The forward was entitled to go for the ball but Parks got there first. If goalkeepers are impeded at corners, they are protected. I didn't like the lack of quality. Since one side is resting on the bottom and the form of the other is the worst

Croker action on dismissals

Ted Croker, the FA general secretary, yesterday promised action to counter the escalating level of foul play in football. Twelve players were dismissed on Saturday, including four at Brentford, and that took the total for the season to 128.

Croker wants a meeting with the League, referees and players to discuss the statistics. He said: "We are not going to panic. So many of the dismissals are for two cautionable offences. Maybe because they are given so easily, it is time to reconsider the system."

action to "the break that at last went our way" was equally predictable.

His side had earlier been twice devoid of luck. In the first half, a drive from Williams was tipped onto a post by Parks and the rebound fell conveniently into his arms. In the second, Jones, standing almost underneath Tottenham's bar, managed somehow to head over it.

Charlton can claim, therefore, that they deserved their victory, albeit in controversial circumstances, but no one could disguise the lack of quality. Since one side is resting on the bottom and the form of the other is the worst

in the first division, a scrappy and undistinguished affair was to be expected.

Tottenham started badly and never improved. One statistic — they offered only one genuine shot and even that, from Claesen, took them almost an hour — will give an indication of their impotence. But another incident encapsulated their shortage of conviction which has grasped everybody but their admirable captain, Mabbutt.

Claesen, released by Waddle's creative chip, deliberately rolled the ball across the area and into the path of the advancing Stevens. The audience momentarily held its breath and the silence was broken by howls of derision as he struck nothing more substantial than a pocket of air.

The assumption that Venables would immediately lift Tottenham out of their mental confusion was misguided. Far too much damage was inflicted on their confidence while they waited for him to arrive. They resembled an ocean liner that had lost all of its propellers. They still do.

Venables himself feels that "People are crazy to think that an ordinary side can be transformed overnight."

Four-minute treble by Clough's son

By Dennis Shaw

Nottingham Forest 4
Queen's Park Rangers 0

Nigel Clough scored one of the game's quickest trebles in a spectacular finale at the City Ground yesterday. Between the 81st and 85th minutes, the son of Brian Clough, the manager, scored his goals in little more than the time it takes to get the ball from the centre spot to the net and back again.

In an unstoppable Forest finale the first two were from left-footed shots after typical surging raids down the right; the third was dispatched from the penalty spot after Pearce was tripped by Parker.

After which Clough jnr slipped off home speechless, to leave the talking to his father, who is better at it. It was a perfect Sunday afternoon in December and I was absolutely delighted with the centre forward's hat-trick. Clough sr said: "Hopefully, it will be the first of many by the young man for Nottingham Forest."

And he added: "I was also delighted with the size of the crowd despite the competition of five television. Forest's manager has always claimed that the real thing is better than the boxed version and his son has removed all arguments with his four-minute show."

The young Clough's first treble restored a championship challenge which had faded slightly and drew a crowd of 18,130. His performance took the limelight from Tommy Gaynor, a £25,000 signing from Doncaster, who struck the first goal four minutes before half-time on his home debut.

The Forest manager's cap-

acity to unearth football's equivalent of uncut diamonds was evident again as the strikeman produced his strike of pure quality. Given one fleeting whiff of a chance, the player from Limerick, aged 24, set Forest on the way.

Gaynor, whom Clough has recommended for Irish Republic honours, beat off the attentions of Fenwick, McDonald and Parker to score. That moment, and the finishing kick which took everyone's breath away, destroyed Rangers' most obvious threat, a five-man defence in which Parker otherwise policed McDonald and Fenwick in nimble, crisp-tackling fashion.

Behind the late goal flurry was another compelling display by Webb, the England midfielder player, who supplied the centre for the first of them and shared in the second.

Rangers had been steadily building themselves the chance of an equalizer when the flurry came. "You can't stop Forest when they do what they are best at, hitting you on the break," Jim Smith, the manager of Rangers, said.

"Parker has had everyone he has marked for us previously in his pocket. Young Clough is an excellent player who seems to have taken the pressure of being the boss's son in his stride."

Smith felt that Rangers should have had a goal when Bannister was pulled up for hands and later a penalty for a trip by Pearce. In the event his side slipped to their seventh game without a win.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: S. Sutton; G. Fenwick, S. Pearce, D. Walker, G. Foster, W. Jones, D. Bannister, G. Plummer, N. Webb, N. Clough, T. Gaynor, B. Rice. QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: D. Bennett; W. Forsyth, M. Dennis, P. Peck, A. McDonald, T. Fenwick, M. Allen, D. Campbell, M. Falvey, G. Bannister, J. Byrne, K. Brock. Referee: R. Lewis.



Getting to grips: Peake, left, of Charlton, and Thomas (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Webbe's injury halts match

By Chris Thur

It is not yet known whether Webbe has had a genuine epileptic seizure or, as suspected initially, he has also suffered a broken neck.

It is known that he has been suffering from asthma and that a temporary shortage of oxygen could trigger off an epileptic seizure.

Webbe regained consciousness while he was carried to the ambulance but before he was removed on a stretcher his neck was strapped up in a brace.

Webbe, the winner of six Welsh caps, was accompanied by his Wanderers' team colleague and international scrum half, David Bishop,

who himself sustained a broken neck playing for Pontypool at Aberavon several years ago.

Webbe also suffered a bad concussion at the World Cup in the game against Tonga, forcing him to leave New Zealand early.

The game, in which he scored a beautiful try for the Wanderers, was abandoned with Koreans leading 29-22 and heading for the first win of their tour.

Brigadier Rolf James, the chairman of Public School Wanderers, said of Webbe's condition: "I have been in touch with the hospital and he is responding to treatment."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rafferty's resilience

Wellington (Reuter) — Roman Rafferty, of Northern Ireland, won the New Zealand Open golf championship at the seventh hole of a remarkable play-off yesterday.

Rafferty shot a final-round 71 to force a play-off with the American PGA champion, Larry Nelson, but at the fifth extra hole both players agreed to share the prize-money. They were then intercepted by the tournament director, who informed them the rules did not provide for such an amicable ending. Nelson scored one over par at the seventh to give Rafferty sole possession of the title.

Tennis import

Middlesbrough Tennis World have signed the Australian, Mark Kratzman, for the new Mortgage Corporation National League season.



Gomes: appointed captain

Gomes stays

Port of Spain (Reuter) — Larry Gomes, who announced his retirement from first-class cricket last July, was named on Friday to captain Trinidad and Tobago for the 1988 West Indies cricket season. Gomes, a left-handed batsman, replaces the off-spinner, Ranjive Nanjan.

Disley request

Salford have placed their Great Britain under-21 prop, Gary Disley, on the transfer list at his own request.

Fans riot

Milan (Reuter) — Police used tear gas yesterday to disperse about 200 rampaging fans after a match between AC Milan and Roma during which a player was hit by firecrackers thrown from the terraces. The Roma goalkeeper, Tancredi, was carried off on a stretcher after he was hit in the leg and shoulder by two firecrackers. Milan won 1-0.

Set to love

Kuesnacht (Reuter) — Manuela Maleeva, the Bulgarian champion and world No. 8 women's tennis player, married Francois Frangiere, a Swiss tennis coach, over the weekend.

Gold in Japan

Fukuoka (AP) — Sharon Rendle, of Britain, beat Kaori Yamaguchi, of Japan, by decision yesterday for the 52kg title in the international women's judo championships.

END COLUMN

Plea for sharing cricket's guilt

By Jimmy Hill

More words have probably been written and spoken in this country about the Pakistan-England cricket controversy than about the Washington summit on which world peace depends.

Having scrutinized the issue, endeavouring to disentangle the cant from the common sense, I find one fundamental omission. No one has challenged the Test and County Cricket Board about its guilt in placing cricketers, who in most cases are playing their only trade, in conditions in which it is impossible to fulfil their jobs.

To professional players cricket is not a game, it is their means of livelihood. I hear those who say "Wouldn't it be pleasant if cricket was just a game again?" — as if had manners ended at Lord's. I am afraid it is a disease of the age and extends from the Houses of Parliament via every highway and supermarket to the village green.

Of course professional footballers and cricketers should not show dissent, whatever the provocation. It is their professional and moral duty to accept decisions, however inaccurate or unfair.

Umpires should be competent

On the other hand, it must be the moral duty of their employers to make sure that these livelihoods are not put at risk by the incompetence of those who have their batting and bowling lives in their hands. Whether they come from Salina Park, Surrey or Slims, umpires should be competent to officiate at the level at which they are appointed to stand.

Having examined a mass of evidence, including that of my own eyes, I am not in any doubt that ineptness is not too strong a word to describe some umpiring performances in this series. But which heads will roll? Once they have decided how much of Gatting's blood they are going to drain, could his employers not turn their attention to themselves?

A. N. Other is a Test batsman given out unjustly in single figures in four consecutive innings. Is he likely to be considered for future Tests? If he is selected, is he likely to be on the kind of high it takes to make a big score in Test cricket? Even if his morale has miraculously remained unimpaired, the odds are that lack of practice out there in the middle will take its toll.

It must be the employer's responsibility to ensure that the worker is given a fair chance to ply his trade under proper conditions. To ask cricketers of high talent and earning power, which can fluctuate dramatically, to risk their careers in the hands of incompetents should not be tolerated.

It is the duty of those responsible not so much to appoint neutral umpires but to appoint competent officials of whatever origin. Television is blamed for much but what it can provide is a complete visual dossier of umpires' decisions world-wide.

Making a stand at the outset

To identify umpires who too frequently make decisions that a 10-year-old child might prove upon would be simple. And they must not be allowed to stand. Even if a tour has to be cancelled before it starts the courage must be found to say so.

Part of the success of our domestic umpires is that most of them come from the same mould as the players; they were cricketers of standing beforehand. It is less likely that they will be swayed by pressures from fielders or the crowd or the occasion because their brains register a decision, computerized by years of experience and close contact.

The brain of one not so well qualified in a crisis in a childhood might give no signal. To be swayed by other influences at that point is not unlikely, without necessarily the slightest loss of conscience. If you do not know the truth, how can you lie? In the confusion it is the professional players who suffer. Mostly they contain their frustration to acceptable proportions. Once in a while they do not.

I am not pleading for mercy for Mike Gatting, or any other professional, particularly for setting a poor public example to young sportsmen. I am pleading for the guilt to be shared and, as a result, for consideration and justice to be accorded such players in the future.

EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR ETHIOPIA



"Dying, abandoned by her family, alone and frightened..."

Your gift today could help save her life

"Heartbreaking pictures of starving children appear regularly on our television screens, but have you stopped to think about what happens to elderly people in times of famine?"

"One memory I will always have... finding an elderly woman who had been left behind by her family as she was too weak to undertake the long and difficult journey in search of food. This woman was dying — abandoned by her family, alone and frightened. Sadly, her experience was all too common..."



Michael Buerk.

Help the Aged is already working in Ethiopia to ensure that elderly Ethiopians in remote areas are not neglected. However, we cannot do that vital work without your help — so please give as generously as you can to our Emergency Appeal.

You helped desperate elderly Ethiopians generously in 1984. Please help them now.

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Yes, I want to help save elderly Ethiopian lives.
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THE TIME TO CARE IS NOW

مكتبة القرآن